

# THE ARCHITECT & BUILDING NEWS

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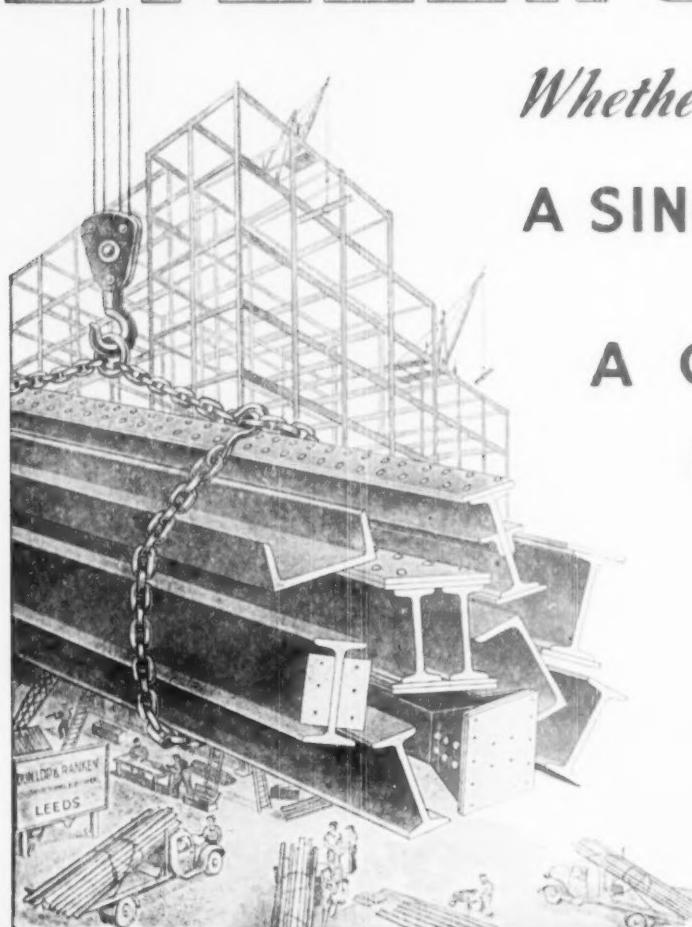
JANUARY 26, 1950

VOL 197

NO 4229

ONE SHILLING WEEKLY

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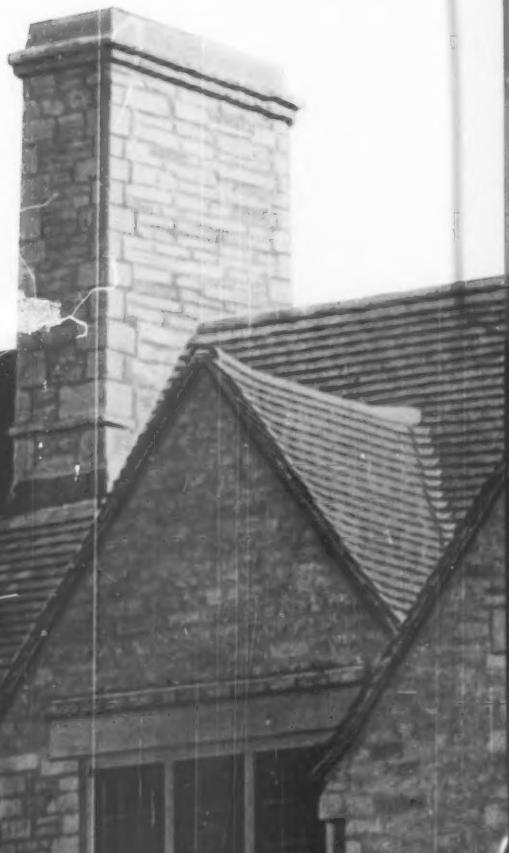


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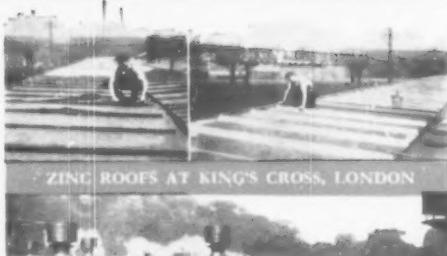
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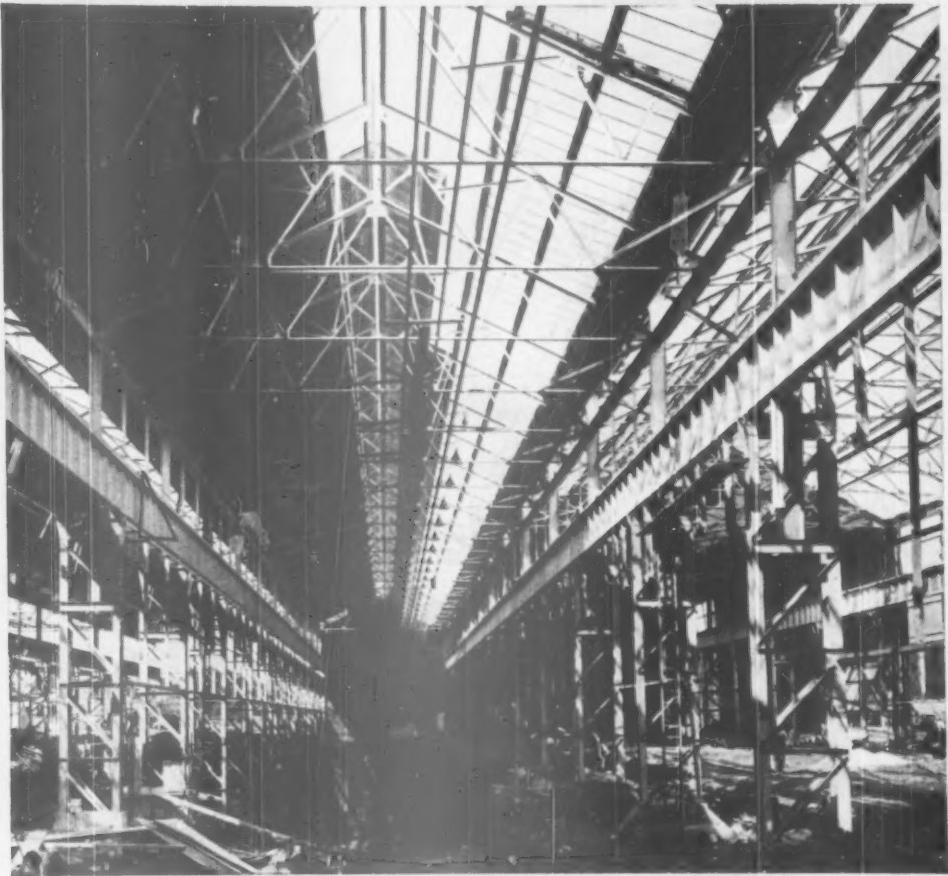
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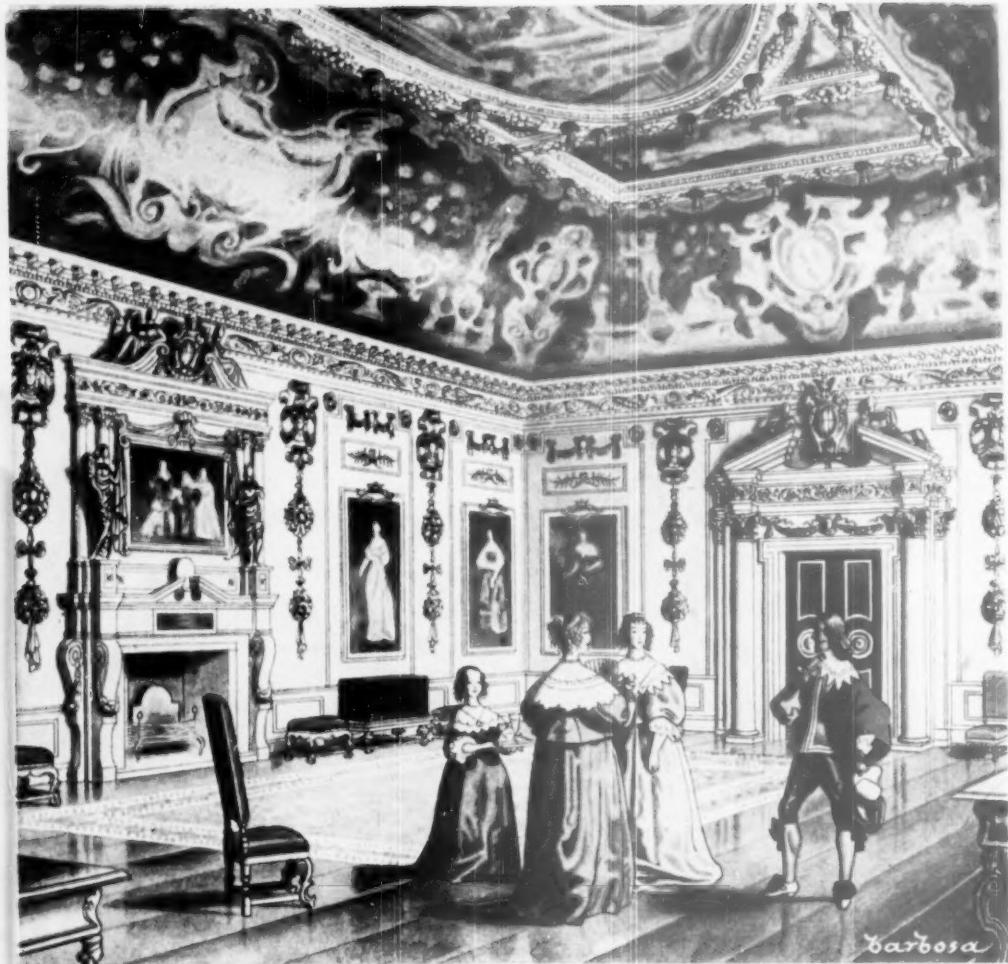


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The photographs show the  
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Architect:  
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General Contractors:  
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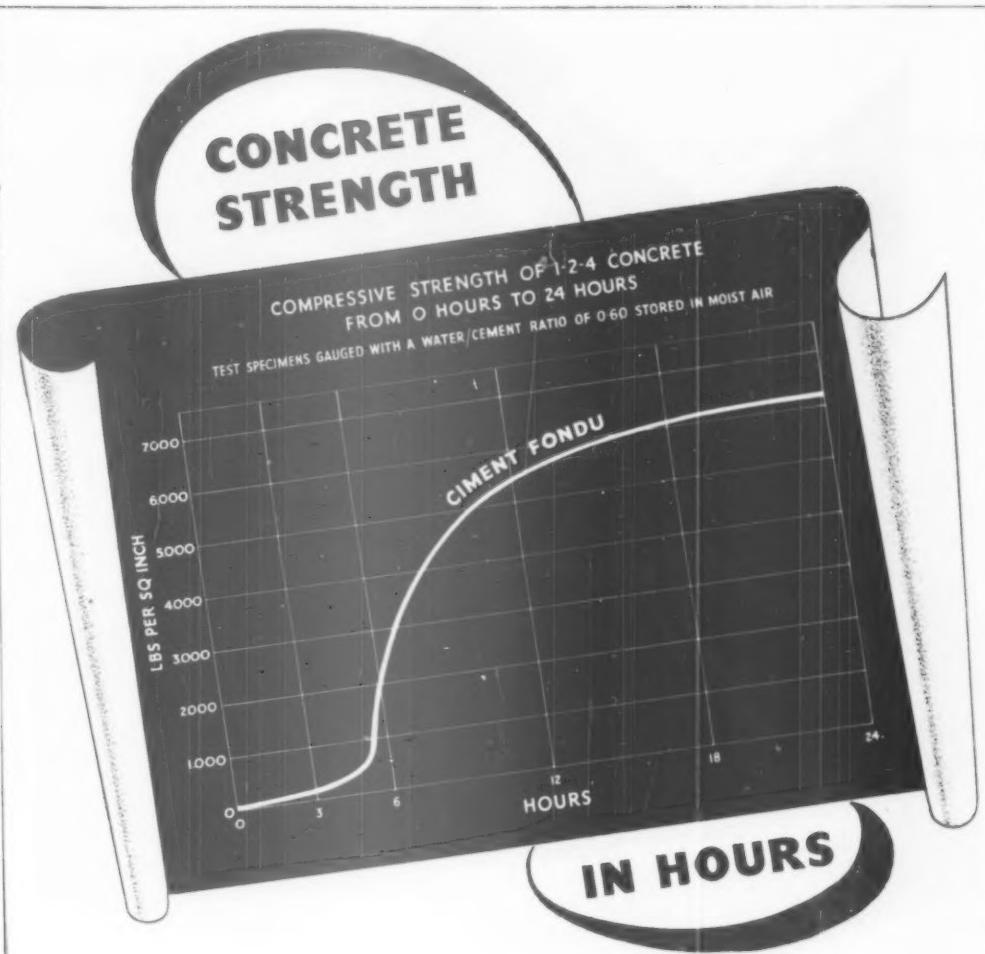
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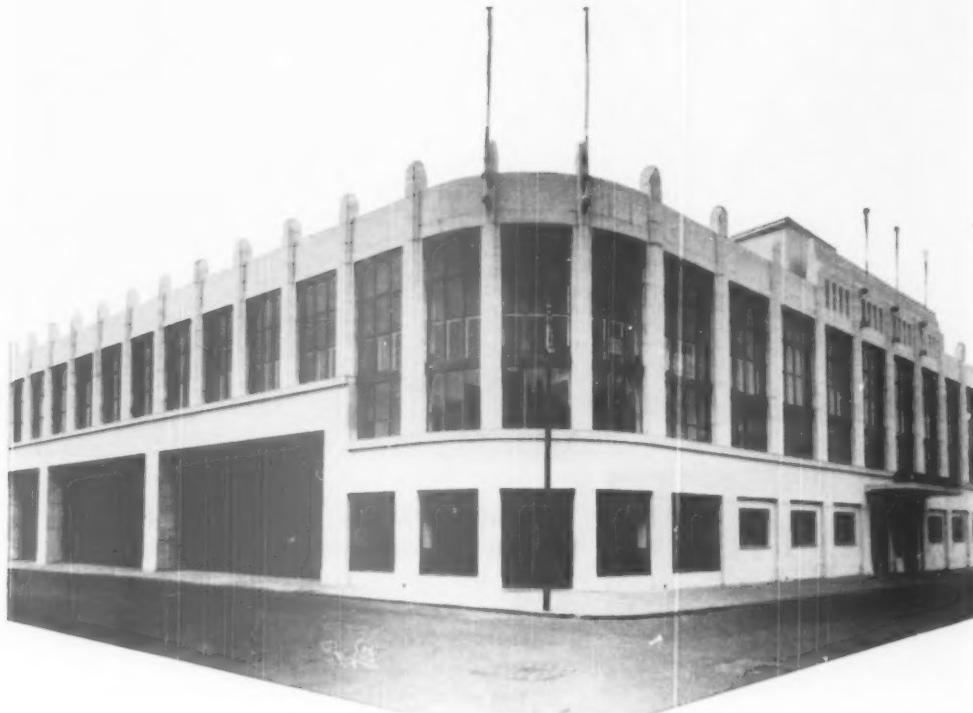
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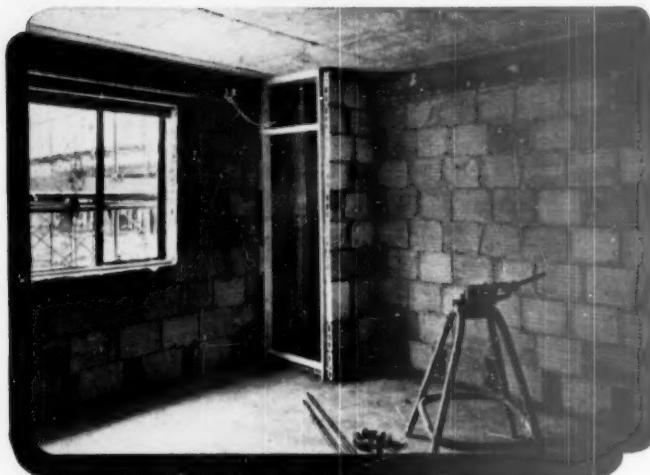
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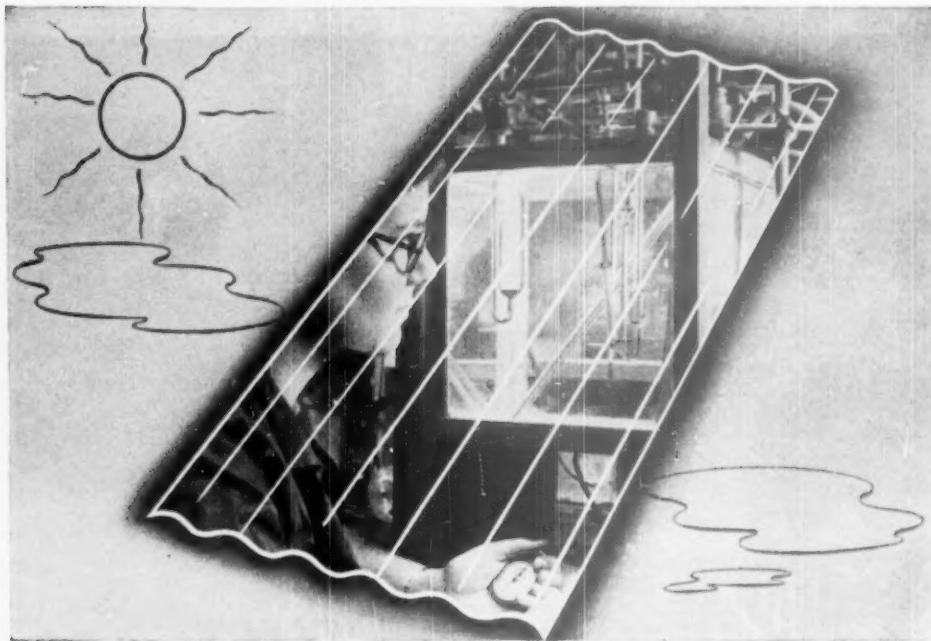
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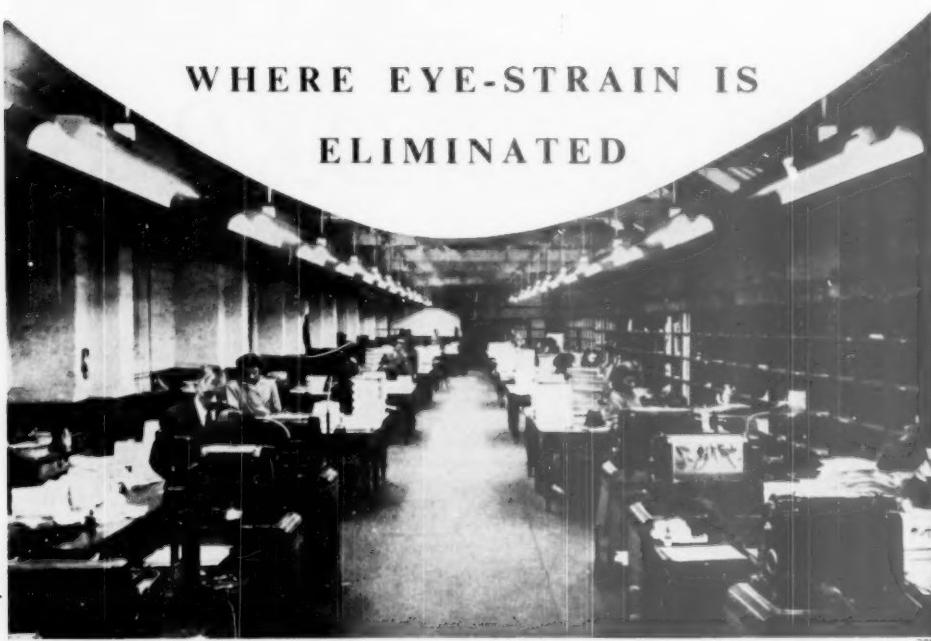
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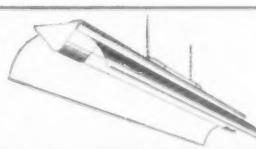
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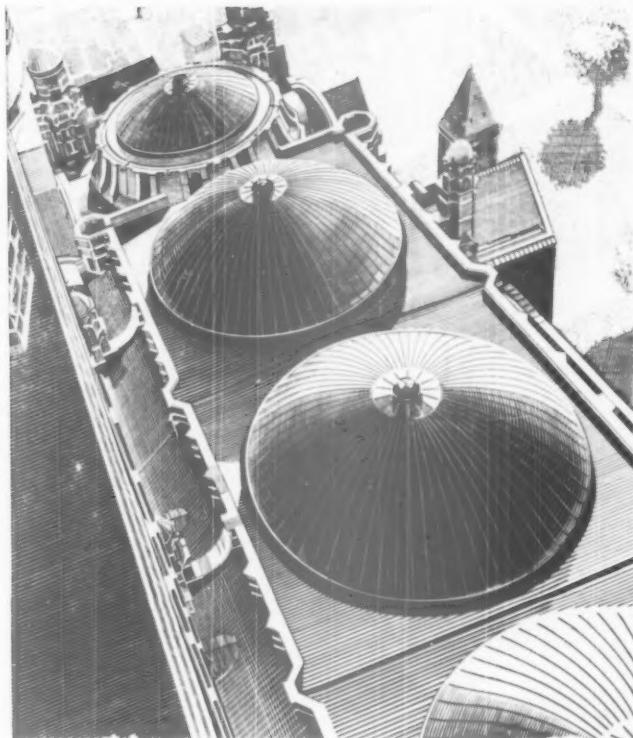


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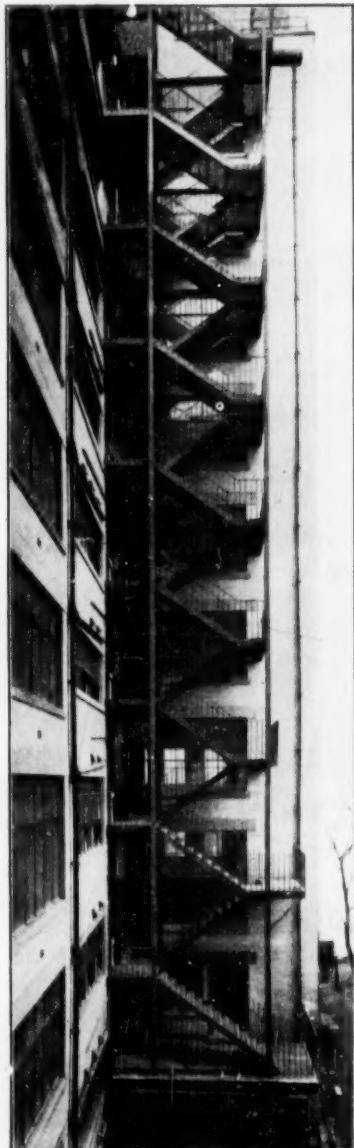
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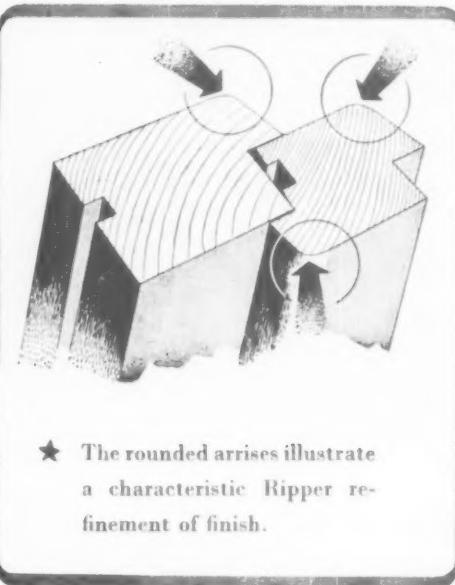
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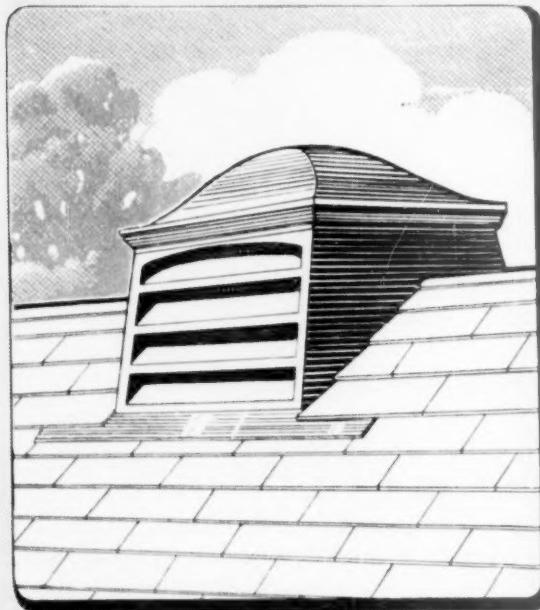


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THE

# ARCHITECT & BUILDING NEWS

January 6, 1950.

The "Architect and Building News" incorporates the "Architect," founded in 1869, and the "Building News," founded in 1854. The annual subscription, inland and overseas, is £2 15s. Od. post paid; U.S.A. and Canada \$9.00.  
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## HAPPY NEW YEAR?

**P**ERHAPS it is only the very young who can savour the full pleasure of milestones such as birthdays, Christmas and New Year's Day. Birthday mornings are greeted by the child with excitement. There is eager anticipation that the new year may bring marked and visible changes. An extra six inches of height or larger feet grown during the night preceding the birthday would cause no surprise to the youngster. Indeed he may be disappointed that no such obvious change occurs to mark the fact that he is a year older.

Successive years bring the realisation that the birthday is only one of three hundred and sixty-five similar days. We are never a year older than the day before only a day older—and that is often an unwanted day added to all too rapidly increasing age. Ironically the external signs so disappointingly absent in childhood make their appearance in later life—to our surprise and horror—in the form of a new grey hair or the loss of an old one.

Bravely we face the fact that as the years go on we have less and less to look forward to and more and more to look back on. Perhaps we still look forward. But we also look back. It becomes easier and more comfortable to remember than to anticipate; to lament than to hope . . . nostalgia . . . cynicism . . . despair. New Year's Day is traditionally a sort of birthday for all the world. Yet the day, as such, is quite an arbitrary milestone. It is merely a suitable time for universal looking backwards and forwards. Some look one way some the other. And the two tend to split into separate camps. A few will look both ways from no-man's-land. To the older ones of no matter what generation the dawn of the New Year presents just another opportunity to lament that things are not what they were; to note with regret the external changes. For younger minds the New Year holds promise of change. There is still the hope that some-

thing may happen "overnight." Optimism tends to be increased—if only temporarily—by the assured way in which people of all ages wish each other a prosperous New Year; as if wishing would make it so.

By the time this appears in print "the birthday" will be a thing of the past. Already, we venture to predict, many resolutions will be forgotten as normal routine re-asserts itself. Opposing camps who may have buried their hatchets (if in somewhat shallow soil) over the festive season (humble word), will be engaged in scraping aside the covering earth. And before anyone can say "Festival of Britain" or "Jesus College," the year 1950, looking very much like 1949 will be rolling on to 1951.

A gloomy New Year to you all!

If the post-war years can teach us anything at all it is that false optimism leads to disappointment. For this reason it would be unwise to hope that the next twelve short months will bring great or sudden changes for the better. Indeed to judge from straws in the wind the amount of building work may well be less than before. Certainly this looks like being the case so far as work of lasting architectural importance is concerned.

But throughout the coming year the future trend of architecture will be influenced by lookers back or lookers forward. And though the shape of things to come is scarcely yet apparent—or even indicated—by actual building it will surely be affected by our mental approach to the problems.

Looking back gives little cause for optimism. The actual numbers of bricks laid may be a source of satisfaction to those who really know just how many we can afford to-day. But there are singularly few signs that architects have anything fresh to say. The causes for such dullness are not hard to surmise. The bigger and more important the job the more

likely are its sponsors to want a "name" to carry it out. The intervention of a decade of no building has left us with names of pre-war vintage. This would be no cause for lament if, throughout the war years, the freshness had not worn off their ideas, until it seems that now they cannot look forward. They can only go back to the old box of bricks and pull out something rather stale.

Callously nobody really minds when an individual passes his zenith. Nor does such passing attract notice in normal times. But the vast amount of new work required in this country requires constant infiltration of lookers forward who by sheer weight of numbers will infuse fresh life into design. Old stuff this! So lest the implied censure be taken to apply only to architects let us hasten to add that most architects will respond if the incentive is provided.

That there are architects with something to say is proved by the occasional appearance—often, alas, confined to buildings of temporary nature such as exhibition work—of truly progressive design. Let the lookers back look forward.

On the other hand let the lookers forward look back. The temptations offered by new materials,

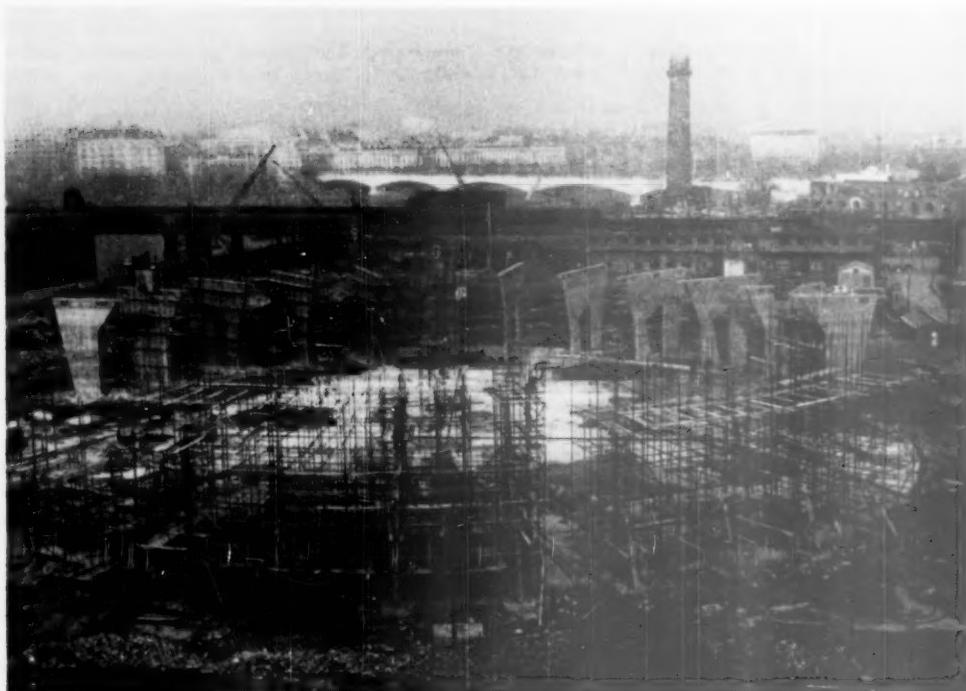
public money and new methods of construction are great.

Perhaps the greatest disservice to the cause of "contemporary" architecture may be done by the very men who wish to hasten its popular acceptance. Diplomacy is needed if the powers responsible for providing architects with work are not to be driven into the arms of reactionaries.

The danger to architecture in a period of transition such as the present day lies in the formation of too great a gulf between opposing camps. Opposition and rivalry are good so long as healthy disagreement over principles does not degenerate into open warfare for personal objectives.

A recent letter from Professor Holford in *The Times* sets a good example. He looks backwards and forwards. He does not lose sight of the claims of the past, be they sentimental, historical or personal. But he looks to the architectural future with the object of providing the greatest good for the greatest number.

If 1950 is tackled from day to day in this spirit the year may well be happy if not particularly prosperous. In this hope we are optimistic—if only for a week or so.



Progress photo of the "House of Discovery" building for the Festival of Britain. Architect, Ralph Tubbs, A.R.I.B.A.

## EVENTS AND COMMENTS

### THE "ARCHITECTURAL TIMES"

THE sounds of the fanfare, blown sometime in September, to herald this new architectural quarterly, had become a little faint by the time it appeared. Printed on art paper, with a tendency to "slim black" advertisements, the *Architectural Times* aims at the cultivation of maturer architectural thought. As a kick-off on this fairly well trodden road it publishes two articles on contemporary British architecture, one by J. J. Oud and the other, in French, by J. van Malderghem. I find architectural philosophy extremely hard going in English, let alone French. Mr. Oud treats modern Brazilian architecture very roughly and considers that we have the "soundest" modern architecture in the world because it is based on tradition. He points out that it is the "average" that counts and not the exceptions. On the other hand, Mr. van Malderghem thinks that Britain has well earned a place in the Ecole Universelle of architecture by the work of Maxwell Fry, Tecton, Godfrey Samuel, Tayler and Green, and Connell, Ward and Lucas. It seems that we are popular all round.

### PEOPLE AND PAINT

I.C.I. must have spent a great deal of money on the production of a booklet called "People and Paint." It is a survey, carried out by Mass Observation, to discover, among other things, the colour preferences of some 2,000 assorted housewives. On the whole, it makes pretty depressing reading. I only hope that I.C.I. Paints Division will not base its manufacturing programme on the report, otherwise they may feel that as long as they make plenty of cream, green and brown they will satisfy the majority. The booklet is worth reading, for it contains plenty of laughs. I think, on the whole, that I.C.I. could have done more good by spending their money on educating the public rather than by finding out something that most people knew already, namely, that public taste is generally low but can be raised by example.

### ELECTRICITY IN SCHOOLS

THE British Electrical Development Association has produced, with the help of a committee of architects having considerable school experience, an attractive and informative booklet on the lighting and heating of schools by electricity. The text includes useful details on all types of installation and the diagrams are particularly clear and well presented. Copies may be obtained from B.E.D.A., 2 Savoy Hill, London, W.C.2.

### SIDE LINES

THE news that a well-known London builder is driving in the Monte Carlo rally, has taken part in the Old Crocks' race, and is a well-known racing motorist, prompts me to disclose that I am descended from a long line of intrepid balloonists. My *arrière grand-père*, Giuseppe Abneronimos, was the first man to make a balloon ascent in his bath. The exhaust gases from the air-heating apparatus being used to keep the water at a constant temperature of 38 degrees Réaumur.



Sketch of proposed approach to UNO Headquarters (seen in background), showing part of the plan for redeveloping 42 Street between Second and First Avenues.

According to the American magazine *True*, the earth has been under constant observation for the last seventeen years by live, intelligent observers from another planet. These gentlemen are now, it seems, piloting the latest mark of flying saucer. Perhaps after the Festival of Britain Mr. Tubbs' dome could be inverted, adapted, and used for some counter-espionage. Baedeker's "London" and "Great Britain" are to be reissued. They will be shorter than they used to be and will be illustrated by black-and-white drawings. I wonder whether this is a good idea?

Writing in *Harper's Magazine* for January, a Mr. John Fischer, commenting on the "gaiety" of Britain and its people, says: "The London which I saw in 1946 has been rebuilt and repainted in a short three years more than I would have thought possible within an entire generation." I suppose he really is referring to London, Eng.?

### THE DUOMO IN DANGER

THE lantern of the dome of the Duomo in Florence has been found to be in danger. Urgent steps are being taken by the Italian Government to put the matter right. Although the cause of the trouble is not stated on this occasion and no hints of impending disaster have so far appeared, it is interesting to note how often the world's great monuments are reported to be about to collapse. The odd part being that they seldom, if ever, do.

### BRADFORD FOR EVER

YOU will perhaps remember the Bradford row. You would be forgiven if you thought that, regrettable as the outcome was, the matter was now forgotten. This is not so. Large areas of the *Bradford Telegraph and Argus* are still being devoted to the battle between the

Chairman of the Public Works Committee, Mr. Ruth, and the Editor. The row is too involved to be of general interest, but I imagine that it is not helping the Bradford housing problem much.

#### BUILDERS LOOK AHEAD

**CHRISTMAS** and New Year messages from the heads of things are very often either sterile, waffling or both. The message from the President of the N.F.B.T.E. to his Regional Presidents is perhaps an exception. It is perhaps a little long, but it is very much to the point. The most important part of it is the last paragraph, which deals with the year ahead and which shows that the N.F.B.T.E. appreciates the problems facing the industry. These problems briefly are:

1. The need for more energy in carrying out the vast amount of building work to be done.
2. The need for more efficiency all round.
3. The need for increased attention to training of the young intake to the industry both in the crafts and in management.
4. The greater use of mechanical aids.
5. The greater use of new techniques.
6. Economy in materials and labour.

All these points are to be used to reach the main objective, which is increased productivity with the result-

ant lower cost to the building owner. No one realises better, I imagine, than the President of the N.F.B.T.E. that there is a big gap between a presidential message and practical results. The building industry has for a long time been unenthusiastic about changes, but a combination of this message, the prospect of the findings of the Working Party, and the dim spectre of nationalisation may provide the dose that is required.

#### ABNER

#### PRO-ABNER

THE editorial post-bag last week included the following verse inspired by the editorial anti-Abner lines in our issue of December 16:

Do you live in Port Meirion or Reading or where,  
Have you joined the new Civil Defence.  
Are you all airy-fairy and long in the hair,  
Or rather exotic and tense?  
Were you once in the Scouts or the Guides or the  
Guards.  
Is your emblem a rose or a leek,  
Do you spend the dark evenings at crochet or cards,  
Have you read Abner this week?  
(With apologies to Abner's distinguished  
contemporary, Mr. Punch).

## N E W S O F T H E W E E K

### Knighthood for Mr. J. N. Comper

In the New Year Honours list the name of one architect, John Ninian Comper appeared in the list of Knights Bachelor.

Mr. Comper is well known for his ecclesiastical work which includes the churches of St. Cyprian, Marylebone (1903); St. Mary's, Wellington (1906); St. Mary's, Rochdale; St. Philip's, Cosham, Hants (1937) and several in Scotland.

Mr. Comper was also the architect for chapels in Aberdeen (1891); Downside Abbey (1893); Ealing; London Colney, Herts; Warrior's Chapel, Westminster Abbey (1931-32), and Burnham, Bucks (1935).

He has designed a considerable number of church fittings and stained glass, including windows in Southwark Cathedral and Westminster Abbey.

An illustrated article on the work of Mr. Comper by John Betjeman appeared in the *Architectural Review* of February, 1939.

We should also like to offer our congratulations to Mr. Philip Hendy, Director of the National Gallery (Knight Bachelor); Sir Malcolm Trusram Eve, K.C. (G.B.E.); Mr. C. A. Morrison, Chief Surveyor, M.O.W.; Mr. H. Russell, lately director of aluminium house production; Mr. F. M. Sleeman, building contractor; and Mr. E. H. T. Wilshire, assistant secretary M.O.T. & C.P. (C.B.E.).

Mr. J. C. Cox, secretary Building Apprenticeship and Training Council; Mr. R. Fletcher, borough engineer

and surveyor, Smethwick; Mr. H. E. Pierce, chairman, Ballast, Sand and Allied Trades Association; and Alderman A. H. Telling, general secretary, National Association of Operative Plasterers (O.B.E.).

A.R.I.B.A., F.R.I.C.S., Borough Architect and Town Planning Officer of Huddersfield. Mr. Nuttall was 46. He was appointed Borough Architect of Eastbourne in 1934, and left in 1944 to go to Huddersfield.

\*

Mr. Michael Waterhouse, M.C., President of the R.I.B.A., is to be the guest of honour of the London Master Builders' Association at a luncheon in the Park Lane Hotel on Thursday, January 19, immediately before the L.M.B.A. Annual Meeting. Mr. Waterhouse is to speak on the lessons learned by the recent building industry mission to the U.S.

\*

Mr. G. S. Hay, A.R.I.B.A., has been appointed chief architect to the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Manchester, and succeeds Mr. W. A. Johnson, F.R.I.B.A., who is retiring on February 11, 1950.

#### OBITUARY

The death has been announced of Herbert Reginald Saxty, L.R.I.B.A., of Middlesex, aged 82.

The death is announced of Mr. A. B. H. Colls, F.L.O.B., formerly a director of Trollope & Colls Limited. He was President of the London Master Builders' Association in 1930, and had been a member of the Council since 1923.

The death occurred, on Christmas Day, of Mr. Harold Nuttall,

#### COMING EVENTS

##### L.M.B.A.

● January 11, at 12.45 p.m. At Derry and Sons Restaurant, Central Area No. 1. Annual Luncheon and General Meeting.

● January 11, at 6.0 p.m. At the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, Storey's Gate, London S.W.1. "Domestic Hot Water." Speaker: J. C. Weston.

● January 12, at 6.30 p.m. At the Imperial Hotel, Birmingham. "Electrical Systems of Temperature Control." Speaker: T. Jackman, Housing Centre.

● January 10, at 6 p.m. "Communal Laundries." Speaker: Miss C. J. Wilson.

##### I.A.A.S.

● January 11, at 6 p.m. In the Kent Room, Caxton Hall, S.W.1. "Acoustics and Sound Insulation." Speaker: H. R. Humphreys.

##### Ministry of Works.

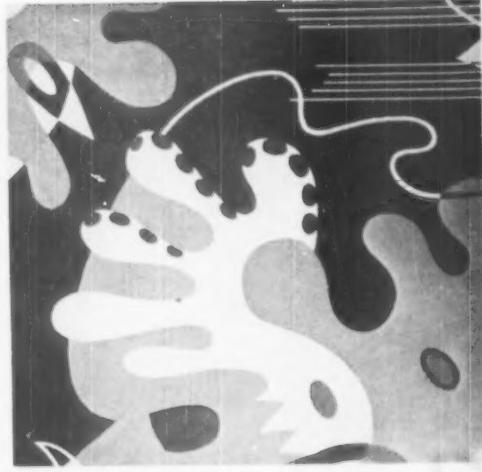
● January 11, at 7.15 p.m. In the Small Hall, Technical College, Manchester Road, Bolton. "Failures in Concrete—Their Causes and Cure." Speaker: B. H. Knight.

##### Institution of Structural Engineers.

● January 12, at 6 p.m. "Steel Economy." Speaker: L. R. Creasy.

**HOTELS :**

First Prize—W. F. Martin. Description—French beige, background diced with darker beige squares; scroll figure a royal blue, other figures an Indian red, grey and sage green.

**CINEMAS & THEATRES :**

First Prize—Gerald Stanwell, A.R.I.B.A., M.Inst.R.A. Description—general colours, maroon, and bright royal blue, chrome yellow, a dull tan and green.

**I.A.S. COMPETITION FOR DESIGN OF STRIP CARPET****Result of Open Competition for Architects and Architectural Students**

**T**HE competition was divided into three classes with, in each, a first prize of 75 guineas and a second prize of 25 guineas—(1) Hotels, (2) Cinemas and Theatres, (3) Ships. Owing to the wide variety of the sizes and shapes of the rooms to be provided for, the carpets were to be made up from strips—hence the requirement to design in strips of either 27 inches or 36 inches in width. Competitors were informed that Wilton type was most favoured, but that in designing for this material the colours should be restricted to five. In Axminster carpets there were no restrictions on the number of colours that might be used.

The assessors were Mr. Kenneth J. Lindy, F.R.I.B.A., F.I.A.A., Mr. E. C. Leach, F.R.I.B.A., and Mr. Hurley Robinson, F.R.I.B.A., F.I.A.A., with, as Technical Advisers, Mr. John Anderson and Mr. J. P. Glass.

It was the opinion of the assessors that the quality of designs produced by the competitors had exceeded expectations and had more than justified the conviction that the architect had a large contribution to make in this field.

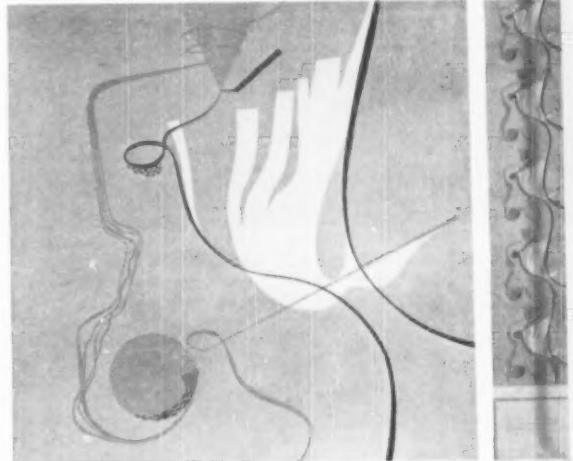
The successful competitors are as follows:—  
Hotels.

1st—W. F. Martin, 6 Canning Crescent, Wood Green, London, N.22.

2nd—Peter Kirkland, A.R.I.B.A., A.A.Dip., and Cynthia Kirkland, A.R.I.B.A., 29 Augusta Street, Glenelg, Adelaide, South Australia.

Cinemas and Theatres.

1st—Gerald Stanwell, A.R.I.B.A., M.Inst.R.A., 49 The Avenue, Beckenham, Kent.

**SHIPS :**

First Prize—J. Faczynski, and J. W. Jakubowicz. Description—Light grey background, with chrome yellow motif. Lines are black or red and the ball and triangle are dark grey.

2nd—John D. Billingham, 5 Lincoln Road, South Woodford, E.18.

Ships.

1st—J. Faczynski, 79 Mortlake Road, Richmond, Surrey, and J. W. Jakubowicz, 3 Apsley Mansions, Claricarde Gardens, London, W.2.

2nd—R. E. Summers, A.R.I.B.A., 4 Berkeley Crescent, Clifton, Bristol, 8.

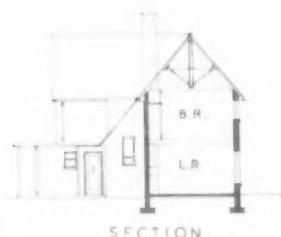
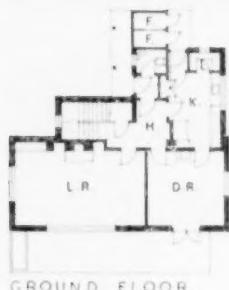
It is hoped to arrange an exhibition of the winning designs in the near future.



# House in Chelmsford



ARCHITECT:  
**ROFF MARSH**  
F.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I.



General Contractor: Messrs.  
Henry Potter (Wm. Sharpe)  
Ltd.

Bricks: The London Brick Co. Ltd.

Dowels: Hakes Bros. Chelmsford.

Electrical Installation: Christy Bros.  
(Chelmsford) Ltd.

Immerseal: Yannidis & Co. Ltd.

Panels: Glassine Panel Products Ltd.  
Industries Ltd., Farnham.

Roof Tiles: Colman Simons & Co.  
Ltd.

Stoves: Carron Iron Co. Ltd.

Wood Block Floors: Hollis Bros.

**SITE**

The site rises steeply from the road and the house has been set well back to obtain privacy and to avoid the cost of building on the slope. An existing avenue of cherry trees has also influenced siting.

**LAYOUT**

The clients asked that the house should be planned with four medium sized bedrooms, two slightly larger than the others, one of which to have east aspect and the other west aspect. On the ground floor there is a large living room with a long window facing south. The room is heated by a "Cameleon" convector fire arranged with a hot air duct to the hall. The dining room has double doors on the south side giving access to the garden. The kitchen faces east and is fitted with an "Aga" cooker which also heats the water. The hot water cylinder is fixed immediately above the cooker.



and special attention has been paid to keeping the plumbing runs as short as possible. A power point was left for an immersion heater adjacent to the cylinder, but the installation of this has not been found necessary.

**CONSTRUCTION**

The external walls are 1½in. cavity brickwork, the outer skin being in Rustic Flettons built in cement/lime/mortar 1 : 1 : 6 with a rubbed joint. It is intended to paint the outside walls with Snowcem at a later date. The internal partitions are in hollow tile. The ground floor is solid, finished with Seraya wood block flooring in the living room and dining room. The hall and kitchen are finished in buff concrete tiles. The window boards are in similar tiles. The internal walls are finished in lime plaster and will be left undecorated for six months. The windows are wood, following the pattern of the E.J.M.A. windows but in stronger sections. The roof is covered with dark red Reynards sand-faced tiles. The garden layout was designed by Percy S. Cane, Esq.

# R.I.B.A. PRIZES AND STUDENTSHIPS, 1950

At a general meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects held on January 3 the Council's Deed of Award giving the results of the competitions for the Annual Prizes and Studentships awarded by the R.I.B.A. was read.

There were in all 712 competitors. The results of the various competitions are as follows:—

### *The Tite Prize:*

Subject: "An Industrial College Research Library."

The prize was awarded to: "Aran," Mr. James Daniel Shearer (Student R.I.B.A.), 71 Great King Street, Edinburgh 3 (School of Architecture, Edinburgh College of Art).

### *The Soane Medallion:*

Subject: "A Parish Church."

Awarded to: "Decani," Mr. Colin Laird, A.R.I.B.A., 59 West Kensington Mansions, Beaumont Crescent, London W.14 (School of Architecture, The Polytechnic, Regent Street, London).

### *The Pugin Studentship:*

Awarded to: Mr. Derek Anthony Cobb (Student R.I.B.A.), "Grassendale," 29 Birch Avenue, Wilmslow, Cheshire (School of Architecture, The University of Manchester).

### *The Owen Jones Studentship:*

Awarded to: "Barva," Mr. John Newell Lewis, A.R.I.B.A., c/o D. J. Lewis, 16 Hill House Road, London S.W.16 (School of Architecture, The Polytechnic, Regent Street, London).

### *The Grissell Gold Medal:*

Subject: "A Sports Club House."

Awarded to: "Aquila," Mr. Kenneth William Charles Reed, A.R.I.B.A., 92 Tanfield Avenue, Gladstone Park, London N.W.2 (School of Architecture, The Polytechnic, Regent Street, London).

### *The Andrew N. Prentice Bequest:*

Awarded to: Miss Rachel Alice Caro, Dip.Arch. (Lond.), A.M.T.P.I., A.R.I.B.A., 15 Woodfall Street, Smith Street, Chelsea, London S.W.3 (Bartlett School of Architecture, University College, London).

### *The Banister Fletcher Silver Medal:*

Subject: "The Smaller English Eighteenth-Century Country House: Its Setting and Furnishing."

Awarded to: "Cabala," Mr. John Leigh Corfield (Student R.I.B.A.), "Woden," 100 Eaton Grove, Swansea.

### *The Alfred Bossom Research Fellowship:*

Awarded to: Mr. Leonard William Elliott, A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.Struct.E., A.R.I.B.A., 6 Masons Yard, Duke Street, London S.W.1.

### *The Godwin and Wimperis Bursary:*

Awarded to: Mr. Emil C. Scherer, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., 18 Harcourt House, 19 Cavendish Square, London W.1

(School of Architecture, University of Winchester).

### *The Henry Saxon Snell Prize and Thakston Bequest:*

Awarded to: Mr. Sidney Edward Thomas Cusdin, O.B.E., A.A. Diploma, A.R.I.B.A., 54 Bedford Square, London W.C.1 (Architectural Association School of Architecture). A Certificate of Honourable Mention was awarded to: Mr. Kenneth Halstead Evans, Dip.Arch. (Dist.) (Liverpool), A.R.I.B.A., 27 Druidsville Road, Calderstones, Liverpool 18 (Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool).

### *The Hunt Bursary:*

Awarded to: Mr. Leslie Vivian Mitchell, Dip.Arch., A.M.T.P.I., A.R.I.B.A., Dept. of Town and Country Planning, P.O. Box 56, Castleway, Salisbury, S. Rhodesia (School of Architecture, The Polytechnic, Regent Street, London).

### *The Athens Bursary:*

Awarded to: Mr. Frank Fielden, A.R.I.B.A., School of Architecture, King's College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 1 (School of Architecture, King's College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne).

### *The Henry L. Florence Bursary:*

Awarded to: Major George Uvedale Spencer Corbett, R.E., A.R.I.B.A., "Fairwinds," Kingswear, Devon (Architectural Association, School of Architecture).

### *The Arthur Gates Prize:*

Subject: "A Study of the Cantilever Principle in Architectural Design."

Awarded to: Mr. Victor Charles Launder, A.R.I.B.A., "High Beeches," Castle Hill, Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight (School of Architecture, Southern College of Art, Portsmouth).

### *The Ashpitel Prize, 1940:*

Name to be announced later.

### *The Rome Scholarship in Architecture, 1940:*

Awarded to Mr. Ian Scott Melville, A.R.I.B.A., 4 Blackburne Terrace, Blackburn Place, Liverpool 8 (Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool).

### *The R.I.B.A. Silver Medal and £10 in Books for Students:*

Awarded to: Mr. Philip Russell Diplock, B.Arch. (Student R.I.B.A.), 60 Croxteth Road, Liverpool 8 (Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool).

### *The R.I.B.A. Bronze Medal and £10 in Books for Students:*

Awarded to: Mr. Frank Sykes (Student R.I.B.A.), 13 Heathfield Grove, Hollingwood Lane, Lidget Green, Bradford (Leeds School of Architecture).

### *The Archibald Dawney Scholarships, 1949:*

Scholarships awarded to: Mr. James

Michael Pollard (Student R.I.B.A.), 17 Hart Close, Rugby (Leicester College of Art), Mr. Edward Jones Williams (Student R.I.B.A.), Tan-y-Graig, Criccieth, North Wales (Welsh School of Architecture), Mr. William Alexander Greig (Student R.I.B.A.), Westfield Cottage, New Deer, Aberdeenshire (Robert Gordons Technical College, Grays School of Art, Aberdeen), Mr. Alexander Henry Bannerman (Student R.I.B.A.), 96 Clifton Road, Aberdeen (Robert Gordons Technical College, Grays School of Art, Aberdeen), Mr. John Smith Bonnington (Student R.I.B.A.), 25 Briermede Avenue, Low Fell Gateshead-on-Tyne 9 (School of Architecture, King's College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne).

### *The R.I.B.A. Henry Jarvis Studentship:*

Awarded to: Mr. William John Gilbert Godwin (Student R.I.B.A.), Oaken Cottage, 53 Marlpit Lane, Coulsdon, Surrey.

### *The R.I.B.A. Howard Colls Travelling Studentship:*

Awarded to: Mr. Robert Alfred Maguire (Probationer R.I.B.A.), 71 Third Avenue, Queen's Park, London W.10.

### *The R.I.B.A. Donaldson Medal:*

Awarded to: Mr. Edward Martin Glossop Wells, A.R.I.B.A., 32 Gunter Grove, Chelsea, London S.W.10.

### *The R.I.B.A. (Anderson and Webb) Scholarship:*

Awarded to: Mr. E. H. Cullinan, Cambridge University School of Architecture, 1 Scroope Terrace, Cambridge.

The Competition drawings (with the exception of those submitted in competition for the Godwin and Wimperis Bursary, the Hunt Bursary, the Andrew N. Prentice Bequest, the Alfred Bossom Research Fellowships, the Henry Saxon Snell Prize and Thakston Bequest, the Rome Scholarship; the R.I.B.A. Bronze and Silver Medals for Students of Schools of Architecture recognised for exemption from the R.I.B.A. Examinations, and the Archibald Dawney Scholarships) will be on exhibition at the R.I.B.A., 66 Portland Place, London, W.1, from January 4 to February 7, 1950, inclusive, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Sundays excluded).

The President, Mr. Michael Waterhouse, M.C., will present the medals and prizes for 1950 and will deliver an address to students, at a general meeting to be held at 66 Portland Place, London, W.1, on Tuesday, February 7, 1950, at 6 p.m., and a criticism will be given by Mr. E. Maxwell Fry, F.R.I.B.A., of the work submitted.



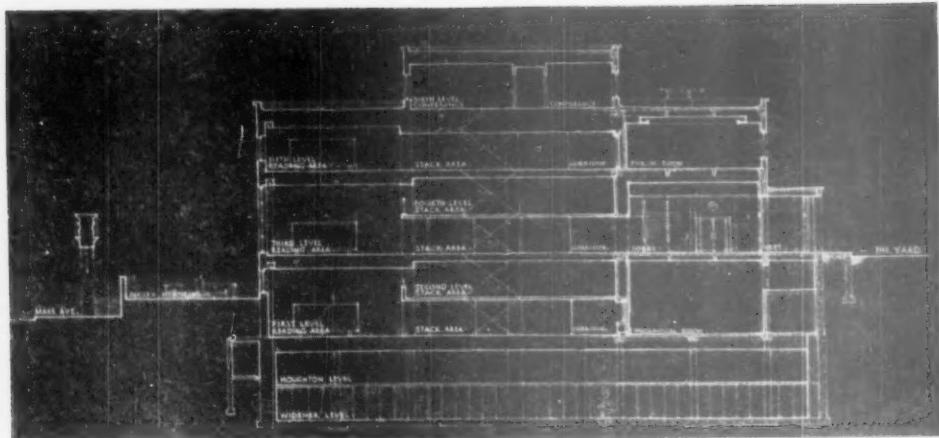
*The Main Entrance*

## The Lamont Library, Harvard University

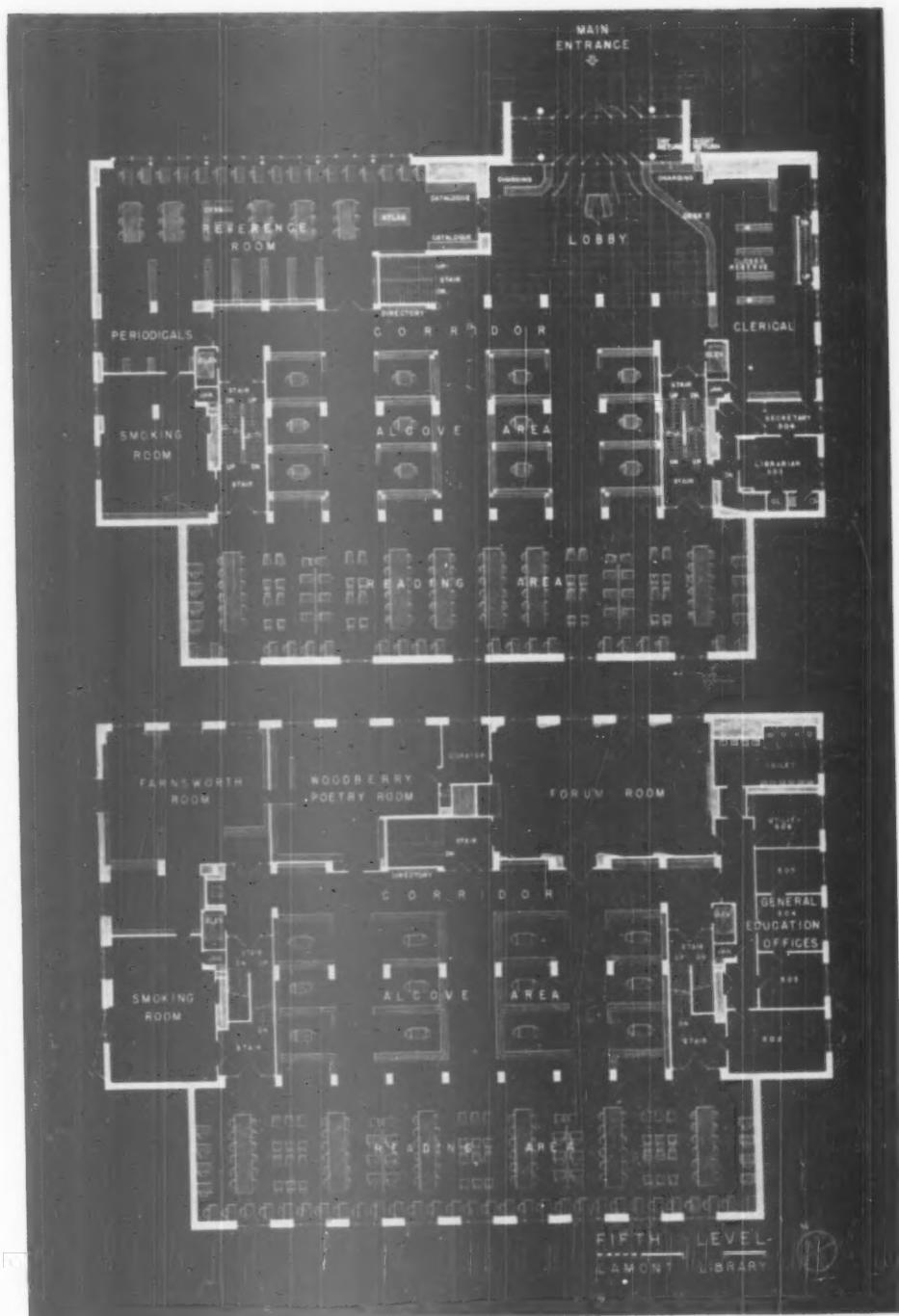
ARCHITECTS: COOLIDGE, SHEPLEY, BULFINCH AND ABBOTT



The Main Entrance : Third level



**T**O adapt the building to the site, the three stories envisaged were reduced to an apparent two by placing the three stories of reading rooms on the side where the slope brought the lowest floor partly underground. The actual size of the building was also reduced by restricting the General Education Centre to a group of conference rooms within the body of the building and other sections of the centre in a low roof house set back so as not to count in the apparent over-all height. The main entrance was placed on the north side, in the middle level of reading rooms so that only one flight of stairs is needed to the upper or lower reading room level. A second entrance was established at the lower level on the west side.



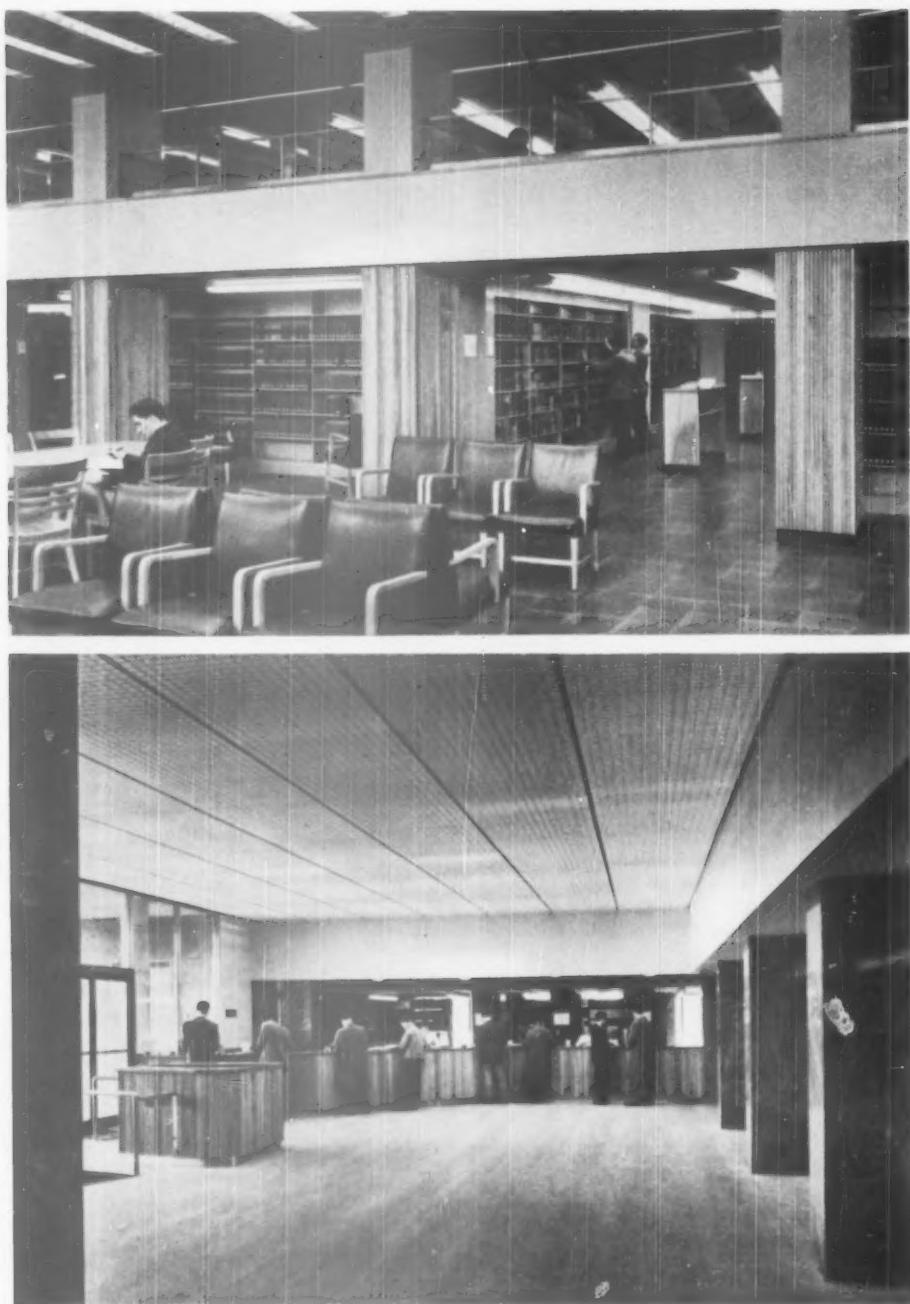
THE LAMONT LIBRARY: PLANS OF THIRD AND FIFTH LEVELS



Above: Reference room, Third level.

Below: The Poetry room.

THE LAMONT LIBRARY HARVARD UNIVERSITY



Above : Reference Room and balcony, Third and Fourth levels.  
Below : Main Entrance Lobby, Third level.

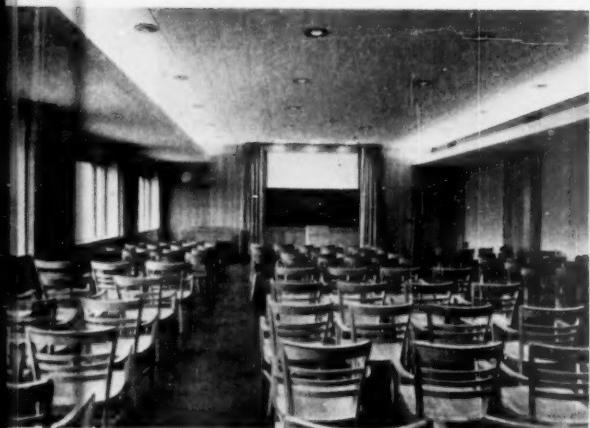
ARCHITECTS: COOLIDGE, SHEPLEY, BULFINCH AND ABBOTT



Alcove : Third level



Reading Area : Fifth level



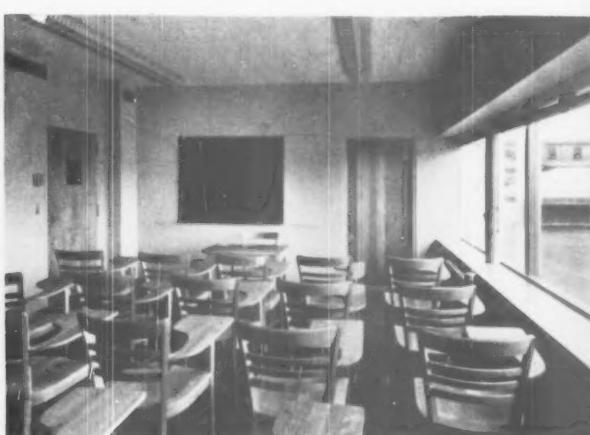
Forum Room : Fifth level



Third level



Smoking Room : Second level



Forum Room : Another view



Librarian's Alcove

NEW LIBRARY, HARVARD UNIVERSITY



Perspective of the Atomic Research Building.

## EXTENSIONS TO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

Architects: BASIL SPENCE AND PARTNERS

**T**HIS building was designed round a difficult technical problem, primarily split into three elements of (i) The Synchrotron block, which houses a unique piece of apparatus—a 300,000,000 volt Synchrotron. (ii) The attendant research rooms, which deal with the different aspects of nuclear fission, and (iii) the teaching laboratories.

Apart from the Synchrotron itself, provision had to be made for transformers, a very elaborate switch room, a control room for the controlling of the machine, and a beam room where the beam from the Synchrotron shoots into the hillside, with two research laboratories above for experiments on the beam. As this is the first machine of its kind, it was necessary to have facilities for adjustment. The Synchrotron hall has a 150-ton travelling crane, allowing the top of the machine to be lifted off so that access to the magnets is possible.

One great problem was protection of the personnel against X-rays and Gamma rays. Where the chamber is below ground level, the problem was one of straight engineering, but where the ground sloped and human activity takes place adjacent to the chamber, walls of 8ft. of concrete had to be constructed. An inner skin of barytes concrete added to the protection efficiency.

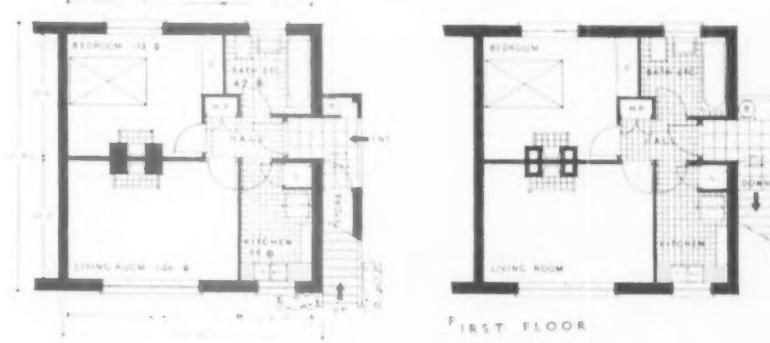
One of the features of the Synchrotron hall is a sliding floor of barytes concrete and lead weighing over 100 tons. This floor slab, when in its closed position, must have a perfect seal against radiation, and a system of levers had to be devised to lift the slab against checks when in the static position.

Another question to be solved was that of damping down vibration caused by the Synchrotron when running, as it is the intention to use galvanometers in different parts of the building. It was found necessary, therefore, to use both springs and compressed rubber to absorb the different frequencies of vibration. It was also found necessary to have all busbar connections flexible through the Synchrotron wall, and a 3in. air space surrounds the whole chamber.

A further consideration was that of noise, as it is calculated that 150 fods is given out from this machine (equivalent to several aero engines running at once) and, in the brief, absolute silence was asked for in the research rooms. The greatest difficulty was coping with ventilation shafts, but it was found that splitters 40ft. long had to be incorporated to completely deaden the noise from the Synchrotron chamber, which had to be thoroughly ventilated, as great heat is generated when the machine is running.



Typical Two Storey Flats used as terminal feature to groups of Terrace Houses. Where suitably sited, a balcony replaces the bay window shown.



Flat type I. Floor area of each flat 418 sq. feet.

## HIGHFIELD HOUSING ESTATE, BELFAST

designed by the Education Architect, R. S. WILSHERE, F.R.I.B.A., F.R.I.C.S.

THE Highfield Estate was acquired by the Belfast Corporation in 1944. The first contract for 80 houses and eight flats was placed in 1945, where existing road frontage was available with road and sewers. The estate when completed will provide 750 houses and/or flats; contracts are in progress for a further 350 houses. The plans comply with the first standards laid down by the Northern Ireland Ministry of Health and Local Government for post-war housing, but owing to continuously increasing building costs these standards have had to be progressively reduced. The houses, which are built of local "sand-faced" bricks with artificial stone dressings and "Cotswold Grey" concrete roofing tiles, are built in various sized blocks, from a single cottage to terrace groups of 3, 4, 10 and 14. Ground floors are solid concrete finished with wood blocks and concrete tiles. Upper floors are 4in. x 1½in. joists and boarded floors. The average all-in cost of the house and site works, exclusive of street works, amounts to £1,150 per house.

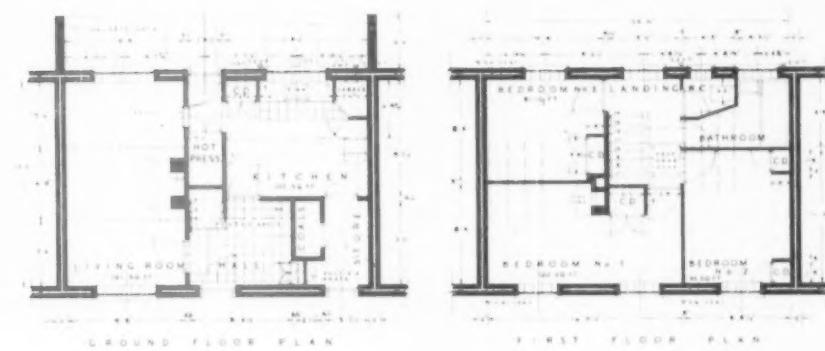
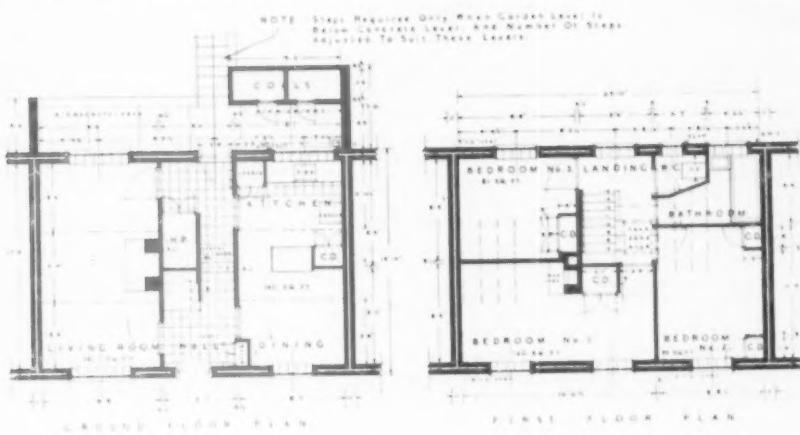


Above: Group of 10 houses facing a terrace block. Three types of plan are employed for grouping purposes.  
Below: Detail of the centre portion of a terrace block of 14 houses.

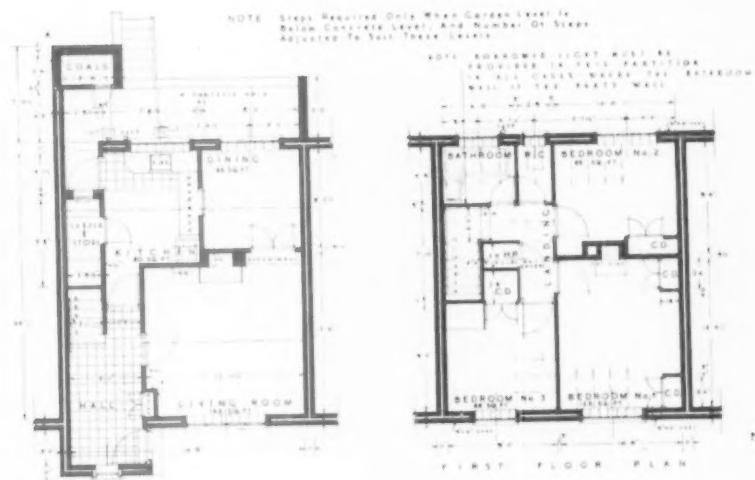


Site Superintendent—W. J. McPhail, A.M.I.C.E.  
Quantity Surveyors—W. H. Stephens & Son, F.R.I.C.S., Belfast  
Building Contractors—I. Copeland & Sons, Ltd., Belfast

Plumbing—Lawther's Ltd., Belfast.  
Electrical Installations—J. D. Tesle, Belfast;  
Tweedle & Partners, Belfast; T. McCready, Ltd., Belfast.



Type 5B  
TOTAL FLOOR AREA—650 SQ. FT.



Type 6  
GROUND FLOOR PLAN

### BELFAST HOUSING: TYPE PLANS

## THE PLANNING OF CAMBRIDGE

**P**LANNING proposals for Cambridge and the surrounding district have been prepared by Professor W. G. HOLFORD and Mr. H. MYLES WRIGHT and have been submitted to the Town and Country Planning Committee of the Cambridgeshire County Council. During the next few months the proposals will be examined by a Committee of members of the County and Borough Councils with the aim of submitting a Development Plan for the approval of the Minister of Town and Country Planning. The proposals will be published in the first half of this year.

Under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, the County Council became the Planning Authority for Cambridgeshire. Because of the importance of Cambridge the development plan for the town and surrounding district is being prepared first, under the powers contained in Section 5(5) of the Act. The organisation of work on the Cambridge plan has differed from that used elsewhere. At Cambridge, all three parts of planning work—control of current development, survey, and preparation of proposals—have been carried out by the County Planning Department, under the direction of the County Planning Officer, Mr. W. L. Waide, or the consultant, as seemed appropriate. It is believed that this arrangement ensures close co-ordination of day to day decisions, planning proposals and preparation for their execution; and as the consultant and his partner, Professor Holford and Mr. Wright, are formally the authors of all the proposals, the County Council remains free to accept or change them after seeing them as a whole.

The following is a summary of the main recommendations.

### Population and Livelihood

**T**HE mid-1948 population of the Borough of Cambridge was estimated at 86,000 and that of the somewhat larger area covered by the plan (Urban Cambridge) at 104,000. Undergraduates are included. The Urban Cambridge population has grown by 16 per cent. since 1937—compared with 5.8 per cent. for Great Britain and under 1 per cent. for London and the Home Counties. The authors give a number of reasons for thinking that a runaway increase in the population of Cambridge is very probable unless special measures are taken to prevent it.

An attempt has been made to compare total employment in and near Cambridge in 1931 and 1948. This comparison shows that Central Government employment has increased by 350 per cent., manufacturing industry by 40 per cent. and that by the university and colleges by about 30 per cent. The five manufacturing industries that have grown most have increased their workers by 4,000—a 180 per cent. increase. The Cambridge area has virtually no unemployed and there are about 1,800 jobs on offer.

The authors hold that a further large growth of population will bring no advantage to the ordinary citizen and many disadvantages. Cambridge possesses open spaces, gardens and allotments on a scale that would be thought luxurious in almost every other town. But land is now scarce and a large increase in population would mean the loss of these amenities and much greater distances between homes and work. Moreover, the housing shortage is already so great that the present inhabitants cannot all be tolerably housed in less than ten years, and no appreciable advantage for either employers or employees is to be expected from a further growth of population. It would also seriously hamper the work of the university.

### Slowing Down of Growth

It is recommended that a determined

effort should be made to slow down immigration into Cambridge, with the aim of trying to achieve a stable population of round about 100,000 in the Borough, or about 125,000 in the larger area of Urban Cambridge. This could only be achieved with the help and co-operation of government departments.

### Housing

In spite of 1,300 new houses having been built since the war the housing shortage is worse in Cambridge than in many larger towns. The authors have examined housing demand in some detail, and estimate that at present rates of building it will take at least eight years to provide a separate dwelling for all families already living or working in Cambridge. This takes no account of the needs of families whose separate dwellings are really unfit for habitation. There are 1,400 such houses in Cambridge. Applications for houses are still being made at a much faster rate than new houses are being built.

The number of habitable rooms in the borough have been counted, and some study has been made of family size and household composition. The authors recommend that all new borough housing estates should contain, when complete, a large proportion of dwellings of less than five rooms, and also some dwellings of every size. They also believe that there will be a demand for small dwellings other than those built by the borough.

It is maintained that building development between the wars sprawled far out from the town in a wasteful and unsightly way. General recommendations on residential development include:

Prohibition of ribbon development;

That Grantchester, Cherry Hinton and other villages still outside the built-up area of the town should be kept separate from the town by permanent open spaces;

A "provisional boundary" for

the town within which new development would be confined;

A careful infilling and rounding off of villages around the town, rather than their expansion.

The authors point out that the inner residential areas lying in a half circle around the centre on the east will soon be due for redevelopment. (See Map 1). They recommend that these large districts should be redeveloped with new houses. They maintain that the inner districts are admirably placed for this purpose, being near the centre, the river and the Commons, and that the alternative would be to let them decay into slums, while building new housing estates two and three miles from the centre of the town.

### Roads

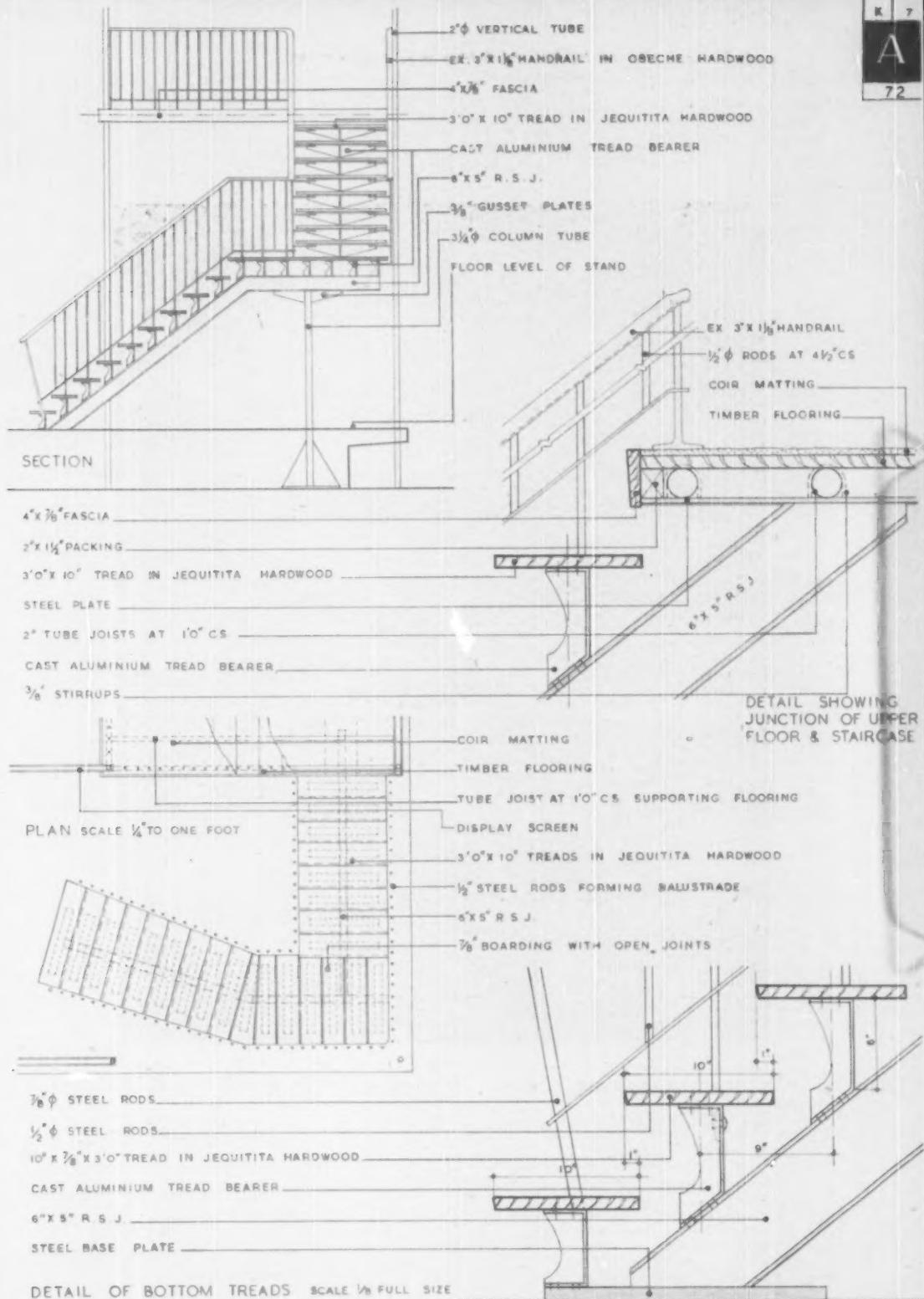
The amounts of traffic and traffic flows on roads in and near Cambridge have been very carefully measured. The authors believe that eventually outer by-pass roads around the town will be needed; but they do not think their construction would be justified for a long time if it is to be done at the expense of road improvements nearer the centre. Through motor traffic is only about a tenth of that of motor traffic of roads nearer in, and inner roads also carry 1,000 to 2,000 pedal cycles each hour—a type of traffic which has its own peculiarities. Recommendations are made concerning the best lines for outer by-passes, but proposals for actual construction in the next 20 years are confined to roads which would at once be used by a large amount of traffic, local as well as through.

### Diversion of Through Traffic

Two partly new routes are proposed to connect up main roads at some distance from the centre—one on the east and another on the west.

#### (i) Chesterton Bridge

The eastern route (Map 1) connects Milton Road—that is, trunk road A 10—with Trumpington Road. To do this would need a new bridge (Chester-



*Supplement to THE ARCHITECT and Building News, January 6, 1950.*



STAIRCASE ON EXHIBITION STAND  
ARCHITECTS: BASIL SPENCE & PARTNERS

ton Bridge) at a point where a new bridge has been proposed for a long time. The new route would not only be heavily used by local traffic but would also take A.10 trunk traffic off the Backs road. It would be half a mile shorter than the present route round the Backs.

### (ii) *The Western Boundary Road.*

The second proposal would connect up the three western roads with Trumpington Road (see Map 1); and would also require a new bridge at Chaucer Road. The western road would take the remaining through traffic off the Backs (part having been already diverted over Chesterton Bridge) and would also serve as a boundary for building development on the west side of Cambridge for many years ahead. The nearness of the open countryside to the centre of the town on its west side is a great asset to Cambridge and it is proposed to retain it.

### **The Backs Road**

The authors propose that when alternative routes have been provided for through traffic, the quietness and beauty of the road along the Backs (Queen's Road) should be safeguarded

by a low speed limit and by forming special entrances at either end (something like those to the Royal Parks in London) which would slow down vehicles and would emphasize the special character of the road.

### **The "Spine Relief" Road**

The road which runs right through the centre of Cambridge almost in a straight line, from Huntingdon Road to Hills Road, is variously named in its several parts (Bridge Street, Sidney Street, St. Andrew's Street, etc.). It is the spine of the town and for convenience is so called in the report. (See Maps 1 and 2). The spine runs through the shopping and business centre, which is ringed with colleges (Map 2) and contains narrow, congested streets.

The authors reject widening as a solution in the centre on the grounds of the length of time required, the temporary nature of any relief gained and because general widening would destroy the present architectural character of the centre. They propose instead the construction of a *relief road*, more or less parallel to the spine and 200-300 yards to the east of it.

(Maps 1 and 2). The aims of this road are:

- To allow local-through traffic from north-west to south-east to run right past the centre, and thus leave more room for shopping and business traffic;
- To form a circulating road around the east side of the centre, so that traffic from the east (where 4/5ths of the population live) can choose the most convenient points of entry and exit.

In their report the authors list the pros and cons of the relief road and give their reasons for the choice of the line proposed.

### **Closing of Magdalene Street to Motor Vehicles**

When the relief route is complete from Histon Road corner to Drummer Street it is proposed that Magdalene Street should be closed to vehicles (other than pedal cycles) at its northern end (Map 2). It is held that the construction of the relief road would only be justified if it is to be fully used and not merely be an overflow for the route along the spine.

### **The Cross-Town Route**

At its southern end the spine relief road just mentioned would connect with an improved cross-town route, running from Emmanuel Street straight through to Downing Street and thus eliminate the present awkward double turn on a cross-town journey—from Downing Street into St. Andrew's Street and thence into Emmanuel Street. It is proposed that Downing Street and Pembroke Street should later be continued over a new Mill Lane bridge to west Cambridge (Maps 1 and 2).

Thus in time the old centre of the town would become something of a precinct, with the spine relief route, the cross-town route and the river as boundaries (Map 2).

### **Future Building in the Centre**

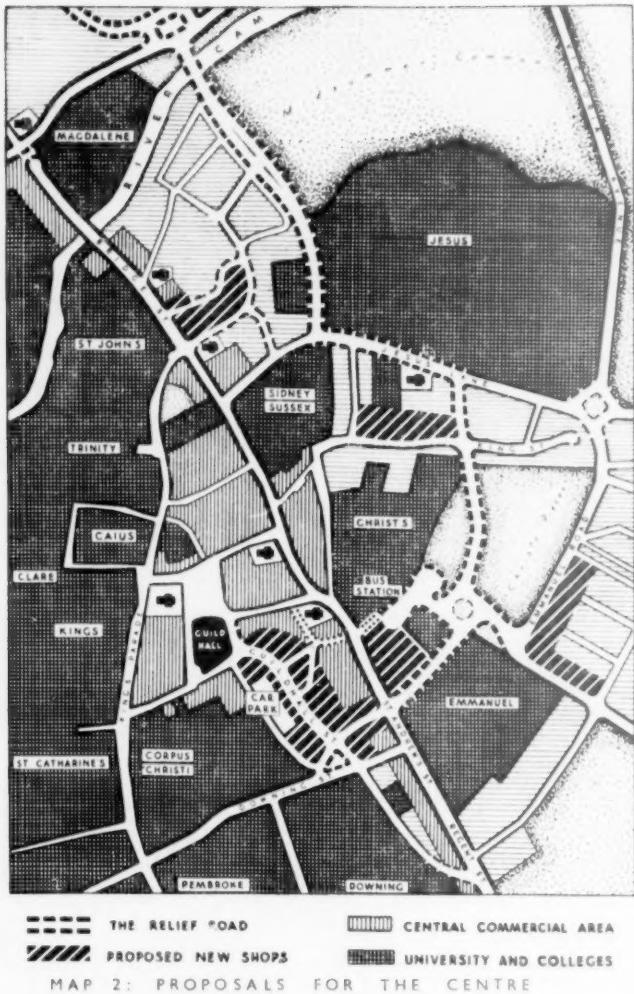
The central area of Cambridge is small and densely built within a ring of colleges (Map 2). Its buildings contain over 9 million sq. ft. of floor space, of which 4½ million are in use by the colleges and university, 1 million by shops and 2½ million by commerce of all kinds (including shops). The authors believe that because of difficulties of access the centre could never make a good shopping and business centre for a large town. But assuming a moderate growth of population they believe that commercial and college needs for additional accommodation can both be met. It is estimated that only a moderate amount of additional commercial accommodation will be needed near the centre in the next 20 years.

### **Guildhall Street**

At least half of this could be obtained in the proposed new Guildhall Street running from the Guildhall down to Downing Street, on land which at present is partly open and partly occupied by dilapidated build-



MAP 1: OUTLINE PLAN



ings (see Map 2). Guildhall Street would be very near the present main shops and also very near the proposed new bus station. Its construction would provide a good number of new shops and offices without any change in the appearance of existing streets. Eventually traffic coming up the spine would be led into Guildhall Street, through Downing Place, which would be given an entrance to Regent Street just north of Downing College (Map 2).

#### "Open Deck" Car Park

The existing Lion Yard car park, on the site of the proposed Guildhall Street, would be replaced by a 3-floor "open deck" car park, which could accommodate 400 cars. Shops would be provided on the ground floor below the car park decks.

#### New Bus Station

Travel to Cambridge in country

buses has greatly increased since before the war. A new covered bus station is proposed on a site adjoining the existing station (Map 2). This would bring passengers to within 200 yards of both the principal existing shops and of Guildhall Street.

#### Extensions of Colleges in the Centre

A majority of the colleges will probably be compelled to provide more accommodation for undergraduates. Some colleges contemplate extending their buildings in the centre, especially along the line from St. John's to Pembroke (Map 2). The authors recommend that shops along this line should not be reduced in number, and that college extensions which displace commercial accommodation should provide for good shops on the ground floor.

Preservation of the architectural character of the centre, and the height

and size of buildings are also the subject of recommendations.

#### The University and Colleges

It is maintained that a large expansion of the university, in terms of buildings if not of students, is inevitable. The bulk of building will be done by the university rather than the colleges.

#### Building West of the River

The authors stress the importance of all academic buildings being reasonably near together, and consider the alternatives of siting most new university buildings in the centre, in West Cambridge or in both according to function. Subject to certain reservations, it is recommended that sites west of the river should be favoured for most new buildings. It is proposed that all the land west of the Backs and between the Huntingdon and Barton Roads should be regarded as a reserve for university buildings (Map 1). Much of the land will not be needed for perhaps a hundred years and might be used for houses in the meanwhile.

#### Science Buildings

The authors recognise the difficulty of deciding the best sites for new science buildings. Since these buildings are large and may have to be duplicated or extended at short notice there would be solid advantages in placing them on spacious sites west of the river. Against this, existing scientific buildings are closely grouped near Downing Street, an extension will soon be built on Lensfield Road, and the links between new and old buildings may be so close that it would be very inconvenient for them to be far apart. It is recommended that future large university buildings should not be placed south of Lensfield Road, so that university expansion will be in one direction, westwards, and not in two. It is also proposed that the Addenbrooke's Hospital site should be made available for science buildings when the hospital moves.

#### College Extensions

The number of sets of rooms in university lodging-houses has fallen to 1,540 from 2,700 before the war, and it is probable that most colleges will have to provide more accommodation for undergraduates in college or in hostels. It is recommended that some of this accommodation should be specially designed to be convertible from bed-sitting rooms to full sets of rooms, or to flats for dons or the general public; and that sites west of the river should be considered for new buildings of this kind. Some college extensions on the western side of the central area would also be practicable, as mentioned above.

#### New Colleges

It is thought probable that one or two new colleges may come into existence fairly soon. Five sites are recommended: four on a line running from Huntingdon Road ("The Grove" and "Wychfield") via Storey's Way to

Clarkson Road; and one on the site of the present electricity station on the river opposite Magdalene. The first four sites are west of the river.

#### Conclusion

In the final chapter of the report the authors point out that about £8 million was spent on new buildings and other

development in Cambridge between 1919 and 1940—about £1 million being on roads and bridges. In their view, at least an equal sum is certain to be spent on new development in the next 20 years—and probably a very much larger one. They believe that development on this scale, in Cambridge,

should be guided by a plan agreed by the county, the town and the university, and that to be successful a plan must be backed by such agreement. They also emphasise that the goodwill and help of central government would be essential if certain of the recommendations are to be carried out.

## R. I. B. A. EXAMINATIONS

### Part IV – Practical Experience and Professional Practice

**I**T has always been recognised that five or six years at a School of Architecture does not make an architect. In fact you are only on the first rung of the ladder. As in everything else practical experience is an asset in architecture which goes a long way to make an architect.

The problem of whether one should have practical experience before attending a School of Architecture or afterwards is always a subject which makes a good debate. It is in fact a very debatable subject. There are those who argue, with a certain amount of logic behind their argument, that the way to become an architect is to spend your first three years in an architect's office, take your Intermediate Examination externally and then proceed to a School of Architecture for your fourth and fifth years. If you get in the right type of architect's office you are taught from the very beginning the meaning of the word "work." If anybody doubts this I can give concrete examples of those who have gone through the mill by this dual method and have proved to be most successful architects.

This question of practical experience has been carefully considered by the R.I.B.A. and they have seen fit to amend the provisions as they now stand. Before you can be admitted as an Associate or before you are qualified to apply for admission to the Register of Architects you are required, after passing the Final Examination, to submit satisfactory evidence on the prescribed form of having had "since" passing the Final Examination at least 12 months practical experience in an architectural office or in a suitable technical capacity on building work in course of construction.

The alteration which makes all the difference is that it is after or as it is put on the form "since" passing the Final and the time is 12 months. 12 months is a short period although it may appear irksome to you to have to wait another 12 months after you have already spent six years at a school. Even after six years of theoretical and one year practical are we really architects? The answer is no. It takes many years of practical experience before one can truthfully call oneself an architect.

Obviously this procedure of one year after passing Final would not be

fair to the student who, perhaps through no fault of his own, had not been able to attend a School of Architecture, but had worked in an office and sat for the examinations externally. If he was to put in an extra year after passing when for argument's sake he had already six or seven years practical it would be doubly penalising him.

The Board must have appreciated this point for they state that a successful candidate who submits satisfactory evidence of having spent "before" passing the Final Examination a minimum period of "six years" in an architectural office or department or in a suitable technical capacity on building work in course of construction, will be admitted to the examination in Professional Practice at the first opportunity after having passed the Final Examination.

As I already mentioned it takes many years before one gains sufficient practical experience to call oneself an architect, but if one goes about the search for knowledge in the right way it is surprising what one can pick up in a short time. So as to assist you in your search for knowledge the R.I.B.A. have issued a small advisory pamphlet which will be issued free on request to candidates taking the Professional Practice Examination. The title is "Office Experience and Business Training" under which heading is "advice to the student."

Before explaining the contents of the pamphlet I feel a word about it would not be out of place. I am sorry it is free; it is worth paying for and would be more appreciated if it cost the student a certain amount. I am sorry it is to be confined to those candidates taking the Professional Practice Examination. I hope it may be made available to all students on payment of a small charge. It should be read by students at an early age not only during their twelve months office experience. Let us hope this excellent little booklet will be revised when necessary and enlarged and so become a standard text book. To my mind it is far too short. I must admit I agree with brevity but only in certain cases and this is not one. It could stand adding to without detracting from the contents. Congratulations to whoever produced this pamphlet let us hope you may continue the good work.

This pamphlet is a lesser edition,

on the same lines as Hamilton Turner's "Architectural Practice and Procedure." It contains an Introduction and eleven short sections all in nine pages. There are points in the introduction which I cannot refrain from bringing to your notice. The first is when it states "It is obviously your duty to make yourself competent to carry out the duties you will undertake in return for payment." How true but the idea of payment in return for duties appears to be nearly an old fashioned idea. The present idea being payment in exchange for time regardless of how the time was spent. Secondly whilst you may have gained considerable experience in design which embodies a grasp of history, construction, acoustics, draughtsmanship and the rest, enabling you to prepare reasonable solutions of most building problems you are by no means an architect. In other words there is a business side to architecture. It is surprising the number of students who do not appreciate this simple fact. As the pamphlet states realistic knowledge of such matters which arise between architect and client can only be gained in an architect's office, or in other words through practical experience.

The object of the pamphlet is to indicate the most useful direction your studies might take during the required period. So that you will not be led to think that after passing the examination you can forget all you have learnt it quickly adds "you will not be able to master in detail, in the time at your disposal, all the subjects which will claim your attention; you could not do so in a lifetime." How true—we should always be students if we really mean to be architects. You should, however, obtain a thorough knowledge of some and such a grasp of the principles of the rest, as to enable you to practice your profession to the satisfaction of your client, the public and yourself.

Emphasis is laid upon the selection of the offices in which you intend to gain experience as being of major importance. If in difficulty it is suggested you should consult the R.I.B.A. or Head of your School. I would add to this a practical architect who has gone through the mill.

Having decided upon an office and received employment it is suggested that you should seek the guidance of

its principal on the best use of the time available, to you, obtaining his permission to examine such documents and correspondence as are necessary for your studies, to consult the books in his library and to visit works under construction.

Whoever wrote the introduction must have had practical experience of students coming to his office straight from School who had swallowed the map as it states "a few words of caution may be useful." If you look on yourself as being at the bottom of a new school and willing to undertake to the best of your ability whatever work comes your way, however strange and uninteresting, you will find that the principal will gladly explain difficulties as they arise. Being a busy and often harassed individual he will not, however, expect "to spoon-feed you." Do a certain amount of reasoning for yourself and when stuck ask but do not ask as the simplest way out. An article on the question of "asking advice" appeared in the *A. & B.N.* in the issue of June 3, 1949.

The Sections in the pamphlet deal with Professional Ethics; the powers and responsibilities of the architect in relation to Clients, Quantity Surveyors, Consultants, Officials, Adjoining Owners, Contractors, Sub-Contractors, Clerks of Works, General Foremen, Foremen and Operatives; Inspection of, and reporting on, Sites and Buildings, including Valuations and Reports and Schedules of Dilapidations and Repairs; Sketch Drawings, Perspectives and Working Drawings; Specifications and Bills of Quantities; Tenders and Contracts and preparation of Contract Documents; Supervising and Controlling Works; Approximate Estimates Certificates and Final Accounts; Architects' Fees; The Architect's Library and Sample Room; Correspondence, Drawings and Office Diaries. They are set out in short simple paragraphs and are obviously only intended as a guide to set you thinking and give you ideas which you, yourself should follow up. To use the words from the introduction it is not intended "to spoon-feed you" with knowledge but to guide you.

Coming to the other main alteration, namely professional practice or for short P.P. this has now to be taken as a separate examination after passing the Final examination and also after submitting satisfactory evidence of "since" passing the Final at least 12 months' practical experience. In other words you cannot sit your P.P. Exam. until you have done your year's practical experience. In the case of those who can submit satisfactory evidence of having spent "before" passing the Final a minimum of six years' practical experience they will be admitted to the examination in P.P. at the first opportunity after having passed the Final Examination. No fee will be charged for the examination which will be held twice annually.

The candidate will be examined in Professional conduct; Duties and liabilities of client, architect, building and clerks of works; Architect as agent of client; Architect as arbitrator and quasi-arbitrator; Professional fees; R.I.B.A. forms of contract and contract documents, including general clauses in specifications, Law of easements; Dilapidations; Legislation, by-laws and regulations affecting building and sites and party wall procedure. It is pleasing to note that some kind and considerate person has impressed upon the Committee who drew up the form that in Scotland they do some things slightly different and therefore it states that alternative questions as necessary may be set for candidates acquainted only with Scottish practice.

For those who may not shine at a written examination they will be pleased to note that the scope of the oral examination on P.P. has been extended in scope to include

(1) Questions relating to the candidate's examination work.

(2) Questions on the candidate's certificate(s) of practical building experience;

(3) Questions on the architect's duties and responsibilities from the time of receiving his client's instructions up to the settlement of the final account.

Students, you could not ask for fairer opportunity to prove your worthiness or otherwise to be termed an architect. Remember when you leave School you have still a long way to go if you are to succeed in the profession.

M. E. TAYLOR

### Housing Progress Report

The Housing Progress Summary for November, 1949, shows that the number of permanent houses completed in Great Britain during November, was 16,492, compared with 16,433 in October.

This brings the number of permanent houses completed during the year to date to 180,191, made up as follows:

January, 15,897; February, 16,655; March, 20,160; April, 15,110; May, 16,866; June, 16,489; July, 14,634; August, 14,556; September, 16,899; October, 16,433; November, 16,492.

The total number of houses completed under the post-war programme is now 763,057 (605,911, permanent and 157,146 temporary).

During November, homes were provided by new building, repair of uninhabitable houses, conversion and requisitioning for 17,509 families, compared with 17,610 in October. This brings the total number of families rehoused by these methods under the post-war programme to 1,060,048. Excluding requisitioned houses, the number of additional homes provided is 1,032,159.

### Vanbrugh Re-used

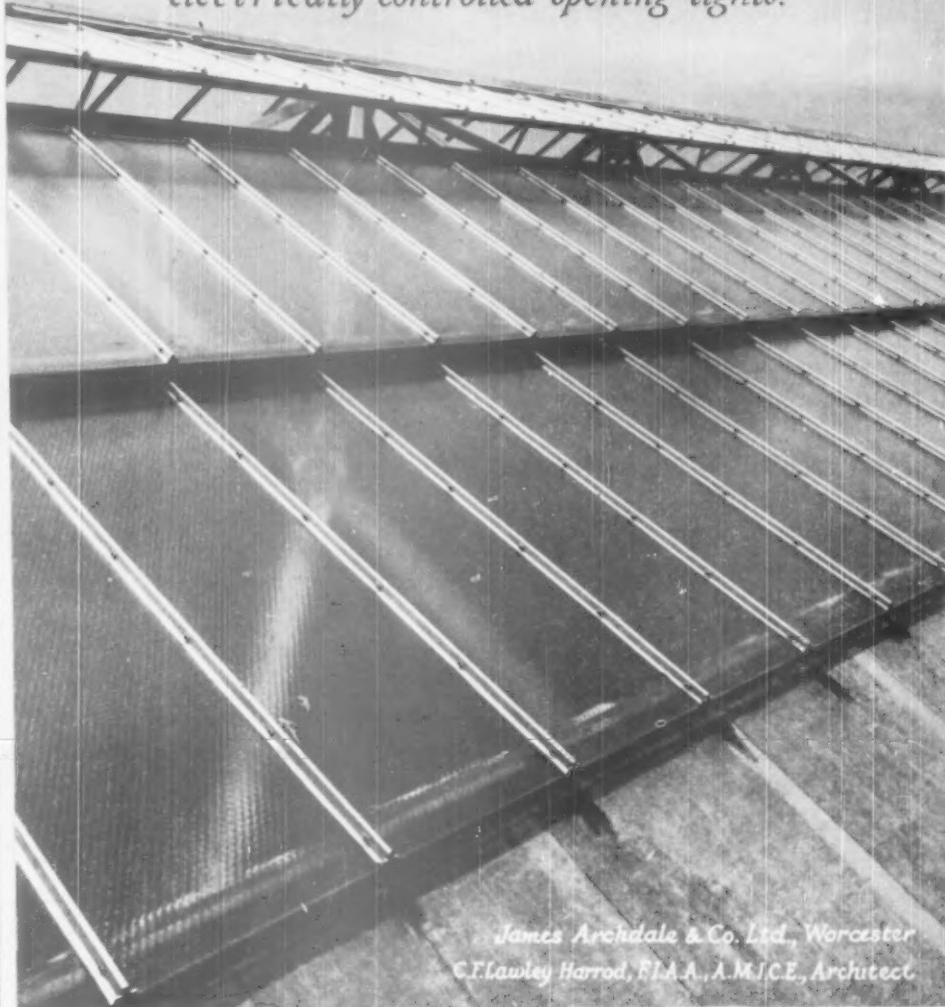
ONE of Vanbrugh's great houses, Blenheim Palace, was used during part of the war to accommodate a public school. It is less well known that another, on a smaller scale but built at very much the same time as Blenheim, is also serving an educational purpose. The difference is that this second house is doing so permanently, and that its use as a school has been the means of its preservation from hopeless decay.

The house is that at Kings Weston, now within the city boundary of Bristol, but originally some five miles N.W. of the old centre, built to replace an older house on a ridge with a famous view over the mouth of the Avon and across to South Wales. By Vanbrugh standards it is a small house, but even so it contrives to be one of the largest, and certainly the finest, eighteenth century building in the district. Some years before the war it had been bought to serve as a new building for one of Bristol's famous old endowed schools, but military occupation intervened and by the end of the war the interior was in a sad state of decay (the grounds and the famous terrace still are) and the problem of rehabilitation was beyond the resources of the Trustees. Early in 1948 there seemed to be little future for the house. But a new factor has by now intervened. Along the bottom of Kings Weston Hill is the new Lawrence Weston housing neighbourhood, by now holding a high proportion of its eventual population, devoid of new shops or public buildings, but with enough children to provide a serious school problem. So the Education authorities have taken over the Vanbrugh mansion and have redecorated most of the interior so as to serve as a Primary School for the younger generation of Lawrence Weston. The house fulfills its new and unexpected purpose with an admirable dignity that is lacking in some schools of completely modern construction. Some of the decorative features are, of course, missing. The family portraits, for instance, have been taken away to the City Art Gallery for desperately needed cleaning and restoration, and the famous painted niches on the landings and grand staircase have been perforated over for preservation. But the essence of Vanbrugh's great design is still there, and a serious reproach has been in part removed. Lawrence Weston is indeed rare among completely new housing neighbourhoods in having a newly discovered Roman villa in its very midst, and its children taught in the Baroque magnificence of a Vanbrugh mansion.

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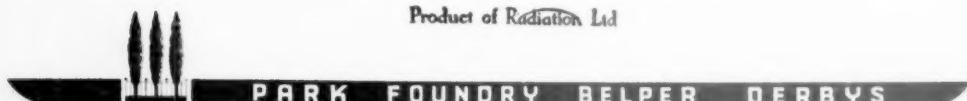
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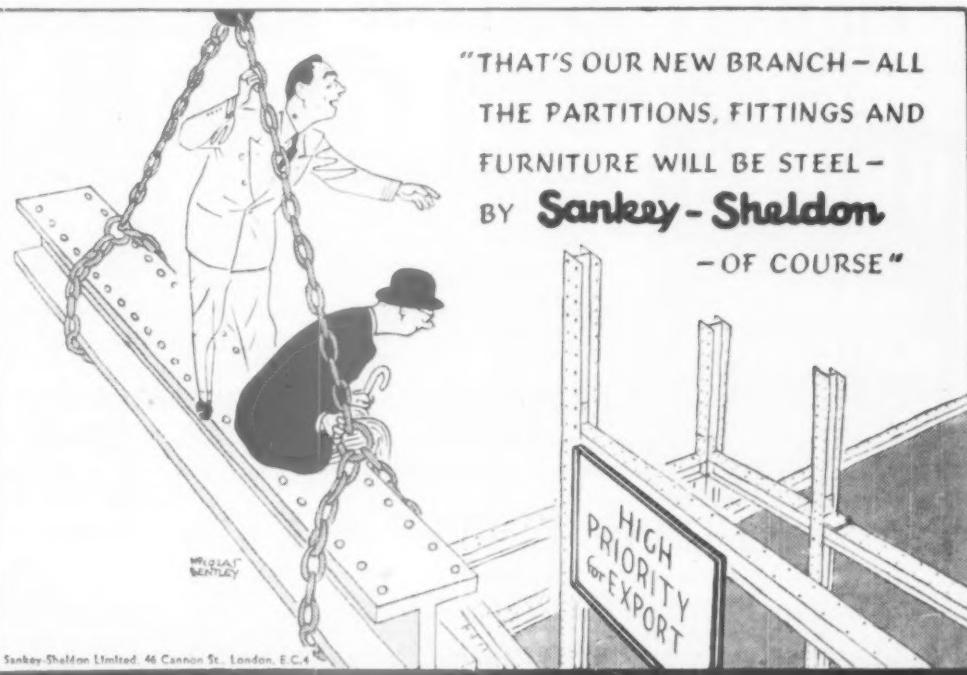
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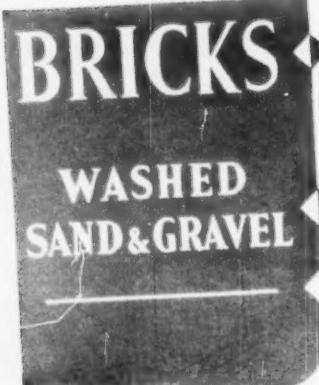
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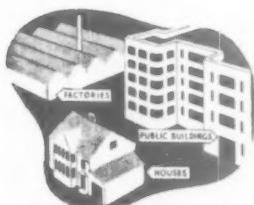
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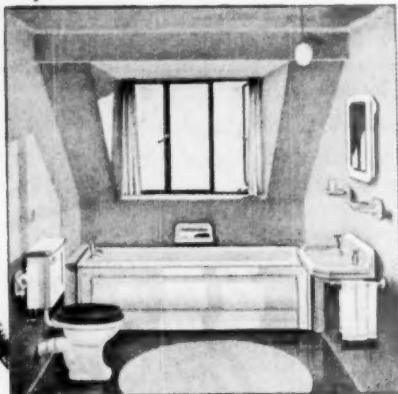
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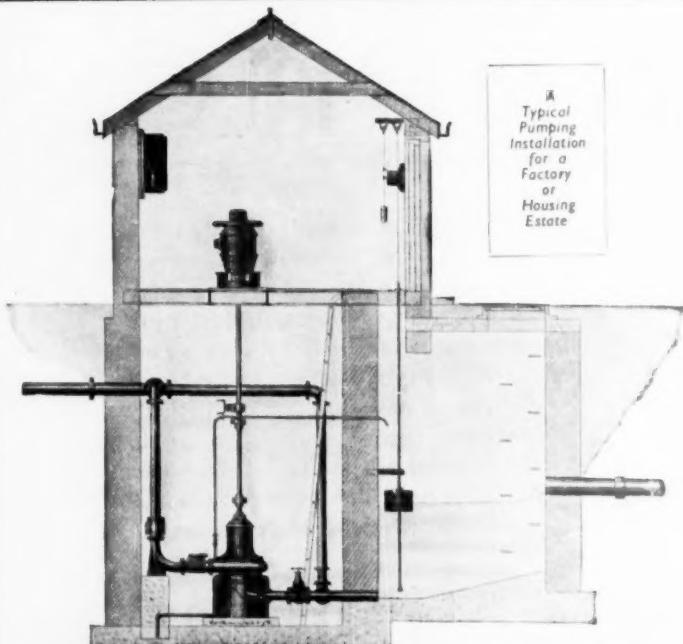
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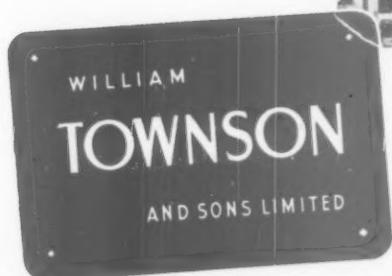
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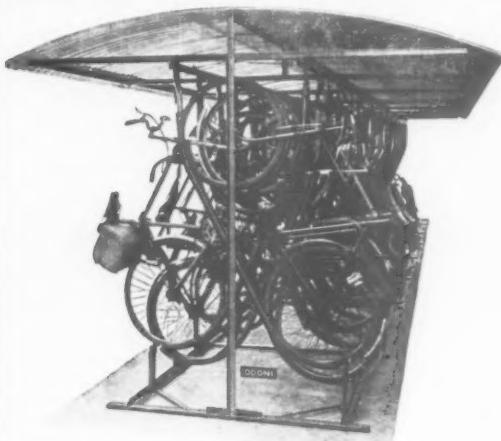
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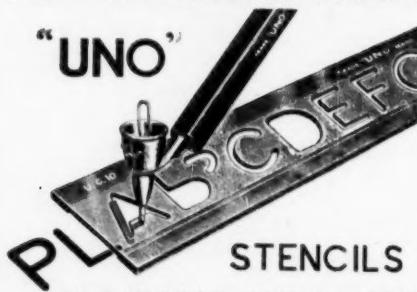
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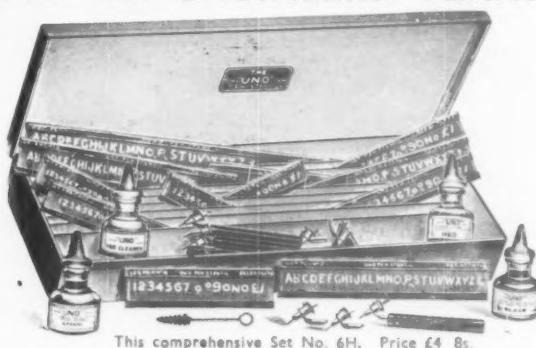
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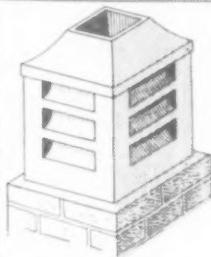
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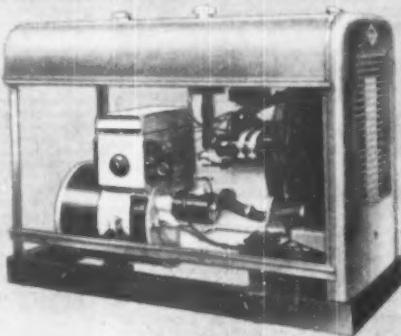
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**A**PPLICATIONS are invited for the following position—

(a) QUALIFIED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT for the preparation of sketch schemes, working drawings and specifications for layout of new parks and open spaces, sports grounds, gardens and ground at housing estates, schools, etc. Salary from £550 to £700 according to qualifications and experience.

(b) ARCHITECTURAL SURVEYING AND LANDSCAPE ASSISTANTS for work in connection with the preparation of surveys, sketch schemes, working drawings and specifications for buildings at parks and open spaces, and laying out of new parks, sports grounds, gardens and ground at housing estates, schools, etc.

Rates of up to £580 a year according to qualifications and experience. The positions are superannuable.

Applications to the Chief Officer of the Parks Department, The County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W.1. Canvassing disqualifies. 14146

### CARMARTHENSHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

#### LLANELLY TECHNICAL COLLEGE.

**A**PPLICATIONS are invited for the post of full-time LECTURER in Building Subjects.

Candidates should be fully qualified to teach building subjects to Ordinary and Higher National Certificate standard, and should preferably have professional qualifications to take Builders' Qualifications.

Salary in accordance with the provisions of the Burnham Scale of Salaries for Teachers in Technical Institutions, with increments for previous teaching and/or industrial experience.

Application forms, which must be returned within two weeks of the appearance of this advertisement, may be obtained from the undersigned on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

JAMES WERTHER HOWELLS, Director of Education, County Education Offices.

County Hall, Carmarthen. 14147  
AMENDED ADVERTISEMENT.

### COUNTY BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE.

#### BOROUGH SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

#### APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR HEATING AND VENTILATING ASSISTANT.

**A**PPLICATIONS are invited for the above appointment in the Department of the Borough Surveyor on Grade V of the A.P.T. Division of the National Town Council's Scales, at a salary of £550 rising to £720 per annum. Applicants must be Members or Associate Members of the Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, and have had considerable experience in mechanical engineering with particular regard to the design and installation of heating and ventilating systems of all types. The appointment will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Acts and to the selected candidate passing a medical examination. Applications showing age, qualifications and experience, together with the names of three persons to whom reference can be made should be sent to the Borough Surveyor, Town Hall, Rochdale, not later than 9 a.m. on the 28th January, 1950. Envelopes should be endorsed "Senior Heating Assistant". Relationship to any member of the Council or Senior Officer of the Corporation must be disclosed, and canvassing will disqualify.

K. B. MOORE, Town Clerk. 14155

### MINISTRY OF WORKS.

**T**HERE are vacancies in the Chief Architect's Division for Architectural Assistants with recognised training and experience. Successful candidates will be employed in London and elsewhere on a wide variety of Public Buildings, including Atomic Energy and other Research Establishments, Telephone Exchanges, and Housing.

Similar vacancies also exist for Assistants with specialised knowledge and experience in stonemasonry, particularly in detailing and jointing of ashlar and carved stonework.

Salary: Architectural Assistants £300-£525 per annum. Leading Architectural Assistants £500-£750 per annum. Extra pay will be assessed according to qualifications and experience. These rates are for London; a deduction is made in the Provinces.

Although these are not established posts some of them have long-term possibilities and competitions are held periodically to fill established vacancies.

Applications in writing, stating age, nationality, full details of experience, and locality preferred, to Chief Architect, W. G. T. Ministry of Works, Abel House, London, S.W.1. 10085

### CARDIGANSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

**A**PPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointments in the County Architect's Department—

(a) QUANTITY SURVEYOR, A.P.T. Grade VIII.

(b) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, A.P.T. Grade VI.

(c) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, A.P.T. Grade V.

Applicants for (a) should have experience in taking off, abstracting, billing, measuring up and settling final accounts for school buildings, and should be an Associate R.I.C.S. (Quantities).

Applicants for (b) should have experience in the preparation of general and specialist specifications and in the preparation of Bills of Quantities, measuring up work, estimating and valuing and the preparation of small water and sewage schemes. Preference will be given to applicants with qualifications of the R.I.C.S.

Applicants for (c) should have experience in the design and construction of post-war schools and preference will be given to applicants with R.I.B.A. qualifications.

The Council is unable to provide housing accommodation.

The appointment will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and the successful applicants will be required to pass a medical examination.

Applications, giving name, address, age, experience, present appointment and salary together with two recent testimonials and suitable endorsed to be delivered to the undersigned, not later than 10th January, 1950.

ERIC CARSON,

Clerk of the Cardiganshire County Council,  
Cardigan Chambers, Aberystwyth.  
16th December, 1949. 14136

### LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

**A**PPLICATIONS are invited for unestablished positions of (a) ARCHITECT, Grade III (salaries up to £700 a year) and (b) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS (salaries up to £580 a year) in the Housing and Vacantion Department. Commencing salaries in either grade will be determined according to qualifications and experience. Engagement will be subject to the Local Government Superannuation Acts, and successful candidates will be eligible for consideration for appointment to the permanent staff on the occurrence of vacancies.

Successful candidates will be required to undertake the design, layout and preparation of working drawings for building schemes (houses, flats and multi-storey flats) and will be employed in the Housing Architect's Division. Preference will be given to candidates holding a recognised professional qualification.

Forms of application may be obtained from the Director of Housing, The County Hall, Westminster Bridge, S.E.1 (stamped addressed envelope required), and quote ref. G.R.311. Canvassing disqualifies. 10068

### COUNTY BOROUGH OF SMETHWICK.

#### BOROUGH ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT.

**A**PPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointments—

(a) QUANTITY SURVEYOR, Grade VI, £595/£660 per annum.

(b) ENGINEERING & SURVEYING ASSISTANT, Grade III/III, £420/£490 per annum.

Applicants for appointment (a) should be experienced in the preparation of estimates for building works, Bills of Quantities, the checking of Inform Valuations, and the settlement of Final Accounts. Applicants should possess an appropriate professional qualification.

Applicants for appointment (b) should have had experience in a surveyor's office, preferably in a Municipal Office, be neat draughtsmen and competent in surveying and levelling. The commencing salary will be within the grade stated above, in accordance with their experience and qualifications of the most senior candidate.

The appointments are subject to the National Scheme of Conditions of Service, the Standing Orders of the Council, the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, to the passing of a medical examination, and will be terminable by one month's notice on either side.

Canvassing, either directly or indirectly, will disqualify.

Suitably endorsed applications, stating age, details of education and qualifications, and details of past and present appointments and salary, accompanied by two or more recent testimonials should be addressed to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, The Council House, Smethwick, to reach him not later than 10th January, 1950.

E. L. TWYCROSS, Town Clerk  
Council House, Smethwick.  
24th December, 1949. 14148

## COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF ABERDEEN.

## COUNTY PLANNING OFFICER.

**A**PPICATIONS are invited for the post of COUNTY PLANNING OFFICER, Applications must be submitted in Town and County Planning.

Salary—£1,200 per annum rising by annual increments of £50 to £1,500 per annum. Placeing on the scale may be granted as determined by the Council. The appointment is subject to the Local Government Superannuation (Scotland) Act, 1937, and the successful applicant will require to pass a medical examination. Forms of application and conditions relating to the appointment may be obtained from the undersigned, whom completed applications should be lodged not later than 12 noon on Monday, 6th February, 1950.

Council of members of the Council, directly or indirectly in connection with the appointment, will disqualify the candidate.

CHAS. HORNAL, County Clerk,  
County Buildings,  
22 Union Terrace, Aberdeen.  
27th December, 1949.

## GOVERNMENT OF NORTHERN IRELAND.

## CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.

## CHIEF ARCHITECT'S BRANCH.

**A**PPICATIONS are invited for ASSISTANT ARCHITECT posts in the Ministry of Finance. Subject to a probationary period of two years, the posts are permanent and pensionable.

Remuneration: The salary scale £1,000-£1,250-£1,500.

The entry point on this scale depends on age viz. £500 at age 26 plus or minus £25 for each year above or below that age. The upper entry point is, however, subject to a limit of £650 per annum.

Qualifications: Candidates must be Registered Architects and have passed the Final Examination of the Royal Institute of British Architects. In addition they must have had at least two years' experience in an Architect's Office or Department in the preparation of working drawings for new buildings.

Promotion will be given to candidates who have served in H.M. Forces in war-time provided that such candidates can, or within a reasonable time will be able to, fit the posts efficiently.

Closing date for receipt of applications: Applications must be made on the prescribed form, which may be obtained from the Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Stormont, Belfast, and must be returned, duly completed, with copies of two recent testimonials, so as to reach him not later than the 17th January, 1950.

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**CRAWLEY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION** invites applications from fully qualified Architects for the posts of (a) SENIOR ARCHITECT within the range £1,000 to £1,200 per annum, and (b) ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, Grade IV, £550 & £50 - £750.

For appointment (a) applicants should have wide general experience in architecture and planning.

For appointment (b) applicants should have had good general architectural experience. A knowledge of town planning is desirable but not essential.

Contributory superannuation will be provided.

Form of application and further particulars should be obtained from the Chief Architect, A. G. Sheppard Fidler, M.A., B.Arch., F.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., Broadfield, Crawley, Sussex, to whom applications must be submitted not later than the 26th January, 1950.

G. A. C. TURNER, Chief Executive.  
Broadfield, Crawley, Sussex. [4153]

### CONTRACTS

#### WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.

**CAERNARVON AND ANGLESEY HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.**

Proposed Conversion of Isolation Hospital into Medical Wards, Llandudno, and Extension to Nurses' Home, Llandudno General Hospital.

**CONTRACTORS** desirous of tendering for the above works should send their names to the Architects, Messrs. Charles B. Pearson & Son, F.R.I.B.A., 18 Dalton Square, Lancaster, or on or before the 9th January, 1950.

**Bills of Quantities, Specification and Form of Tender** will be supplied to tenders. Plans may be seen at my office, or at the offices of the Llandudno General Hospital, or at the offices of the Architects during normal working hours.

H. HEWITT-COOKE, Secretary.  
"Plas Gwyn," Ffriddoedd Road,  
Bangor. [4144]

#### COUNTY OF LINCOLN—PARTS OF LINDSEY.

**PROPOSED POLICE BUILDINGS AND MAGISTRATES' COURTS, SCUNTHORPE.**

Contract No. 1—Site Works, Roads, Sewers and Foundations of Buildings to Ground Level.

**CONTRACTORS** desirous of tendering for the above Contract No. 1 should submit their names to the Architects, Messrs. C. B. Pearson & Son, F.R.I.B.A., 18 Dalton Square, Lancaster, not later than 16th January, 1950. Note: The Superstructure of the buildings will be subject to a separate contract to be tendered for at a later date).

Bills of Quantities and Specification will be sent to intending tenderers. Plans may be seen at my office during normal working hours or at the office of the Architects. The acceptance of any tender is subject to the approval of the Home Office and the Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

HERBERT COPLAND, Clerk to the Council,  
County Offices, Lincoln.  
28th December, 1949. [4158]

THE ARCHITECT and Building News January 6, 1950.

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**EXCEPTIONAL** opportunity open to Valuation Surveyor, preferably with knowledge of Building Surveying, in an old-established City Firm of Architects and Surveyors.—Write, with details of education and experience, to Box G692, c/o Streets, 119 Old Broad Street, E.C.2. [4159]

**MATERIALS TAKER OFF** required by Persian Gulf Oil Company for overseas service. At least two years' experience in building or contractor's office in preparing lists of materials required for building and civil engineering structures. Experience in storekeeping and taking off lists of electrical materials would be advantageous. Starting salary £750 p.a., plus free. Messing accommodation free. Writing giving full details acc. experience and quoting K1074, to Box "J.1." c/o J. W. Vickers & Co. Ltd., 7/8 Great Winchester Street, London, E.C.2. [4156]

### FOR SALE

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**SEASONED** Timber. Why not purchase your requirements direct from the sawmills? Stocks of Pin, Elm, Tin, etc. Oak and other species. Price quoted immediately on knowing your requirements.—Lightwater Sawmills, Ambleside Road, Lightwater, Surrey. Bagshot 141. [4101]

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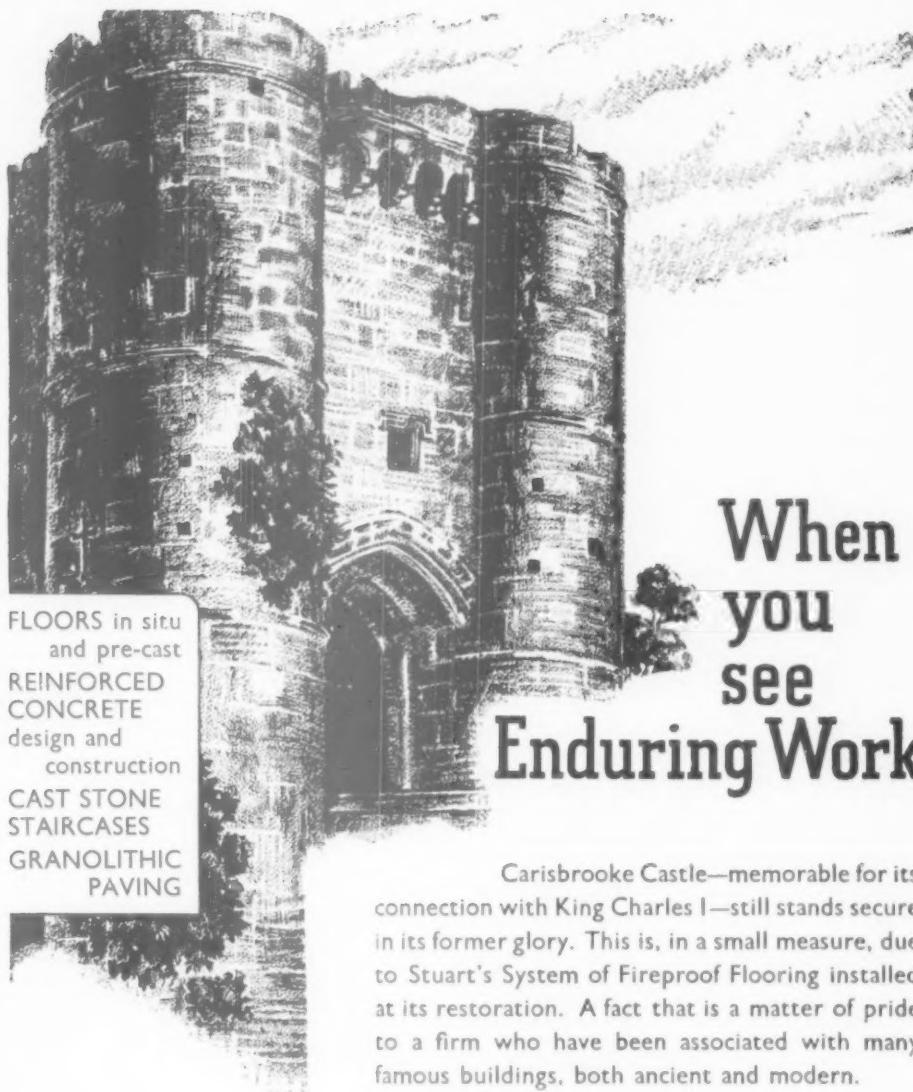
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